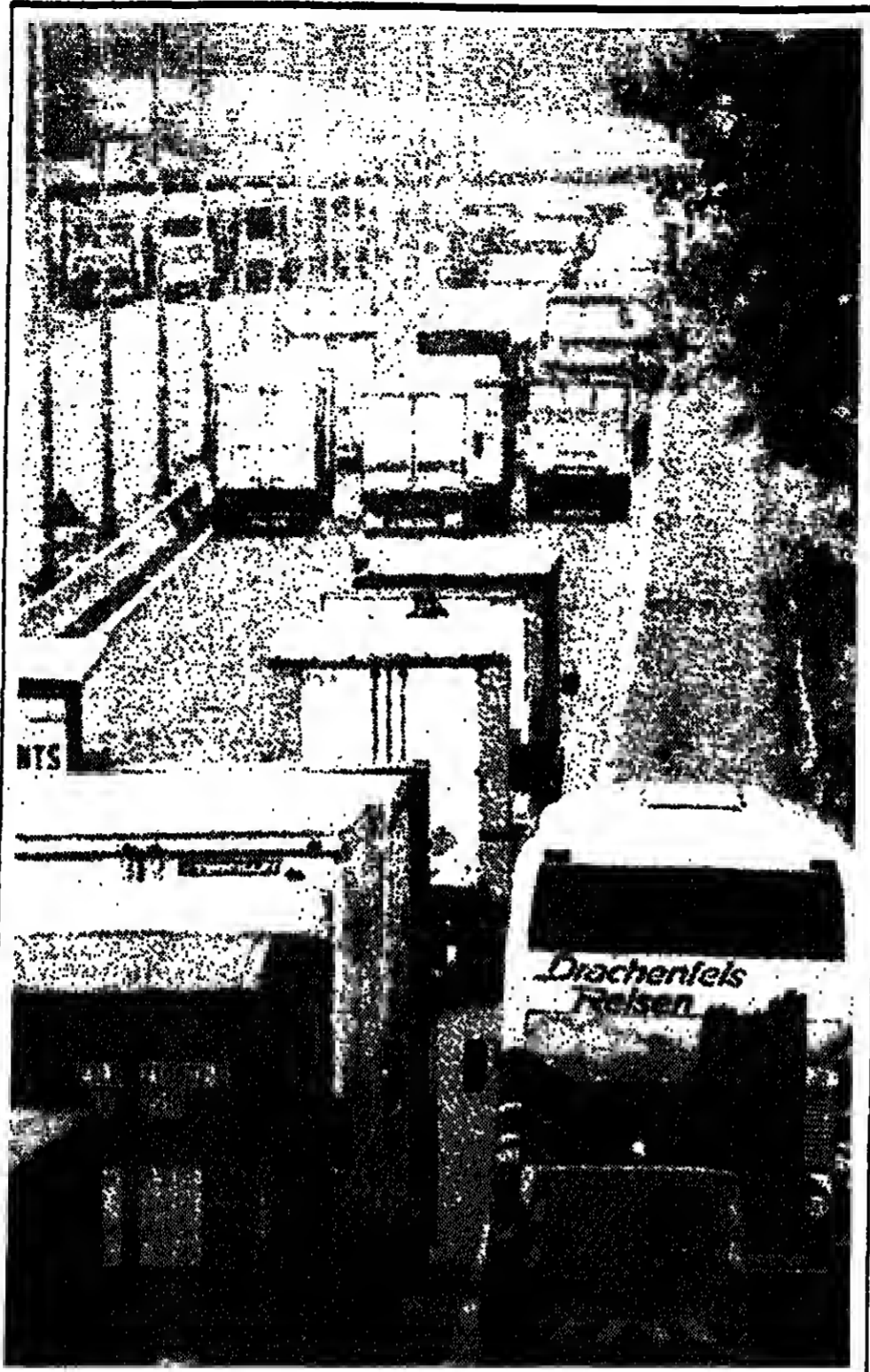


Breaking the Cycle Of Coup and Control Africa's Leaders Start to See Need for a Change in Tactics

By Keith B. Richburg
WASHINGTON Post Service
DAKAR, Senegal — Africa's newest coup leader-cum-president is also its youngest, and he made his international debut at the annual summit meeting this week of the continent's heads of state.



Spread of Truckers' Blockade Paralyzes France
A German tour bus, right, taking to the shoulder of the A1 toll highway near Senlis, northeast of Paris, as it sought to skirt stationary trucks. Truckers are protesting the imposition of a point system of driving rules, which they say could cost them their permits and thus their livelihoods. Page 2.

Surge in Jobless Rate Sets Off Fear of Relapse In the U.S. Economy

By John M. Berry
WASHINGTON Post Service
WASHINGTON — The U.S. unemployment rate surged unexpectedly last month to 7.8 percent, the highest level in more than eight years, the government reported Thursday, leading the Federal Reserve to cut its discount rate amid fears that the economy was faltering again.

Saddam Quelled Guards' Putsch, Dissidents Assert

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
LONDON — A mechanized brigade of Iraq's elite Republican Guards tried to overthrow President Saddam Hussein earlier this week, Iraqi dissidents said Thursday. If confirmed, the coup attempt would be the first reported in more than a year. It follows reports of intensified covert U.S. aid to Mr. Saddam's opponents.

Canadians Take Stake In Matra

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service
PARIS — Northern Telecom Ltd. of Canada, seeking to gain a strong position in Europe's fast-growing and increasingly open telecommunications market, said Thursday it would pay 1.3 billion francs (\$265 million) for a 39 percent stake in Matra Communication, the telecommunications arm of France's Matra SA defense and electronics group.

Bush Vetoes Voter Registration Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush vetoed legislation Thursday that would require states to register voters when they apply for drivers licenses or government benefits, saying it would impose needless, costly and constitutionally questionable federal registration.

France to Stage 1998 World Cup

ZURICH (Reuters) — France on Thursday won the right to stage the 1998 World Cup, felling Morocco's bid to become the first African nation to organize soccer's premier tournament.

Table with financial news: General News, Business/Finance, The Dollar in New York, Dow Close, Crossword, Weather.



JUBILATION — John McEnroe making it clear Thursday what it meant to win the quarter-final match over Guy Forget of France at Wimbledon. The victory advanced McEnroe to a showdown with Andre Agassi in the semi-finals. Page 17.

Dilemma for Bush Should He Remain Upbeat Or Be Sober on Economy

By David E. Rosenbaum
New York Times Service
WASHINGTON — The bad economic news Thursday underscored a serious split among President George Bush's staff members over whether he should appear upbeat or more sober about the economy at this critical point in election-year politics.

UN Force Bulls Way To Sarajevo Airport

By Blaine Harden
WASHINGTON Post Service
SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A Canadian infantry battalion bulldozed its way Thursday through a Serbian roadblock outside this besieged city and deployed 40 armored vehicles around the perimeter of Sarajevo airport.

Where Crime Is Humdrum, the Humble Toilet Flushes Out the Curious

By Laurie Goodstein
WASHINGTON Post Service
NEW YORK — Given the size of the crowd gathered round, and all the hands stretched tentatively and reverently to touch it, you would think a spacecraft from the planet Zeno had landed on 34th Street.

Paralysis Sets In As French Truckers Solidify Blockade

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — French truckers stepped up their blockade of the nation's tollways Thursday, creating widespread chaos, economic dislocation, fuel and food shortages, and frustration for thousands of tourists trapped in the gridlock.

The protest, which started Monday, trapped thousands of tourists on the first week of the vacation season, and caused shortages of gasoline and fresh food in Lille, Lyon and Toulouse.

They gave no sign that they would end their protest against stiffer penalties for driving offenses. The transportation minister, Jean-Louis Bianco, warned that the situation was becoming "very dangerous for the economy."

The government has replied that because the truckers drive more they will be the first to benefit from a measure designed to curb the worst accident toll in the European Community.

The truckers are angry about a law in place since Wednesday, which gives the police the power to remove points from drivers whose behavior puts others at risk.

The truckers say that because they drive more they are more likely to lose points, and that when they lose their permits they also lose their livelihoods.

The government also says that professional truck drivers ought to know the law well enough not to break it.

One concession was offered, but in vain. The authorities said they would not immediately use evidence from tachygraphs in applying the new penalties.

After nightlong negotiations, the truckers started to lift one blockade of more than 1,000 trucks along a section between Paris and Lyon, while keeping others in place.

U.S. Brings Home All Tactical A-Arms

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The United States has completed a withdrawal of all its short-range tactical nuclear weapons from bases around the world, making good on a pledge it made last fall, President George Bush said Thursday.

Mr. Bush said that every ground-launched battlefield nuclear weapon as well as nuclear weapons deployed aboard attack submarines and other warships had been sent home.

Those weapons designated to be destroyed are being retired and scheduled for destruction, Mr. Bush said in a statement at the White House.

The president said the move fulfilled a promise he made Sept. 27, when he announced dramatic changes in the U.S. nuclear arsenal to respond to the relaxation in East-West tensions.

"These historic measures would not have been possible without the full support of our allies around the world and without the far-sighted and courageous leadership of Russian President Boris Yeltsin," Mr. Bush said.

He noted that Mr. Yeltsin and the leaders of other former Soviet republics were taking comparable steps to reduce their arsenals of short-range nuclear weapons.

Last month, Presidents Bush and Yeltsin agreed during summit talks in Washington to make sharp reductions in long-range nuclear weapons as well.

At NATO headquarters in Brussels, a statement by the 16-nation coalition said, "The allies welcomed this information."

The alliance gave no figures on the numbers of weapons removed from Europe. The allies agreed last fall to slash their nuclear arsenal in Europe by 80 percent — the biggest reduction in the history of the 43-year-old defense organization.

At that time, officials said the alliance would get rid of more than 2,000 nuclear artillery shells and short-range missiles and about 700 aerial bombs.

NATO sources said the allies had not yet finished reducing their stockpile of free-fall, or gravity, bombs.

Once the reduction is completed, the alliance's nuclear arsenal is expected to amount to 700 bombs, just a tenth the number of nuclear weapons in the stockpile a decade ago.

Some sources, insisting on anonymity, said that only a small number of nuclear depth bombs had been returned to the United States.

Britain and France, both members of NATO, maintain their own, independent nuclear arsenals.

Most of the U.S. battlefield nuclear arms had been in Germany, Okeana were in Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Greece.

In Germany, Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel warmly welcomed President Bush's announcement.

"This is great news," he said. "The complete elimination of these weapons has come within reaching distance."

U.S. Panel Approves Pact
The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Thursday approved the START nuclear arms reduction treaty signed a year ago by the United States and the Soviet Union, Reuters reported from Washington.

The treaty, which cuts long-range nuclear missiles and nuclear bombers, had been held up by the collapse of the Soviet Union. The disintegration of the single power left four former Soviet states with nuclear weapons.

(AP, Reuters)

WORLD BRIEFS

U.S. Ban on Abortion Pill Is Defied

NEW YORK (AP) — Customs agents seized the French abortion pill RU-486 from a pregnant American woman who brought it with her from England to set in motion a legal challenge to the U.S. ban on the drug.

Agents had been told that the woman would be arriving with the pills at Kennedy Airport, and she freely admitted to carrying them when she was questioned Wednesday. Officials confiscated a dozen RU-486 pills. The 29-year-old woman, who identified herself only as Leona, was not arrested.

The abortion pill was developed by the French pharmaceutical company Roussel-Uclaf SA. RU-486 can be used only in the first 42 days of a pregnancy. It causes a fertilized egg to be expelled before it can be implanted in the uterine wall. RU-486 has been used legally by 100,000 women in Britain, France and China.

House Votes to Cut Navy's Staffing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House approved a \$252 billion military budget on Thursday that punishes the navy for its handling of the Tailhook sex abuse scandal by slashing 10,000 positions from its headquarters staff.

By a vote of 328 to 94 after just three hours of debate, the House adopted a package that is \$9 billion less than President George Bush had sought for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. The bill would eliminate 10,000 administrative jobs at the navy's departmental and major command headquarters. The Senate is expected to complete its version of the bill in September.

Lawmakers have been outraged by the scandal, in which at least 26 women — half of them navy officers — said they were assaulted and molested by drunken aviators at a convention of the Tailhook Association, a private naval aviators group, in Las Vegas last year. Navy investigators found that officers closed ranks and impeded their inquiry into the incident.

Hitler Bunker Museum: Jews Recoil

BERLIN (AP) — Berlin's Jewish community expressed strong reservations Thursday against the wish of a city official to eventually open the buried ruins of Hitler's bunkers to public viewing.

Hitler committed suicide in the bunker complex in April 1945. The land over it was in the "death strip" along the Berlin Wall until East Germany collapsed.

The Jewish community contends that "old and new Nazis" would flock to the bunkers and that this would be "a continuing invitation and insult to the victims of Nazism and their descendants." But Berlin officials emphasized that no decisions had been made on how to use the land. A Culture Ministry spokesman, Rainer Klemke, said there would not be a "place of pilgrimage for neo-Nazis."

IRA Kills 3 It Considered Informers

BELFAST (AP) — The Irish Republican Army took responsibility Thursday for the killings of three men accused of being informers for security forces. Officials said the men had been severely tortured.

Iraqis Seek To Drain A Haven For Foes

By Caryle Murphy and Nora Boustany
Washington Post Service

CAIRO — The Iraqi government, in an apparent attempt to quell a low-level but persistent Shiite Muslim insurgency, has begun efforts to drain parts of Iraq's vast southern wetlands and to move civilians out of the area, according to Iraqis and Western officials.

The projects appear aimed at depriving the rebels of their sanctuary in the marshes and to deny them assistance from civilians.

If successful, they would bring under government control the one sector of Iraq's Shiite population that has enjoyed a degree of independence because of its inaccessibility.

Iraq's Shiites, who make up about 60 percent of the country's population, already have been the target of a decades-long brutal campaign by Baghdad's Sunni-dominated government to wipe out their clergy and ease their religious heritage, according to a report by a UN investigator on human rights in Iraq.

Government forces control most of southern Iraq by day. But the rebels, who receive limited support from Iran, are said to be active by night — even in cities. Although not considered a serious threat, their activities challenge President Saddam Hussein's attempts to reassert his authority over the area in the wake of a Shiite revolt last year.

The violence is relatively new for the marshes, an area of shallow, shimmering lakes and reeds between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Hot and mosquito-filled, it is inhospitable for all but the independent tribesmen who have lived there for centuries, along with plentiful fish, birds and water buffalo.

One Western diplomat said seven Iraqi troop divisions were deployed in southern Iraq, and another said that some of the soldiers had been transferred from northern Iraq as "movement therapy" because they had been on full alert but idle for several months.

Iraq's National Assembly, which rubber-stamps decisions made by the Revolutionary Command Council headed by Mr. Saddam, approved a plan in April to relocate the marsh dwellers to oases closer to work.

More recently, the government announced the "Third River Project" — also called the "Saddam Hussein Leader Project" — to reclaim agricultural land by draining water from the marshes.

How Much Did Bush Know?

Pentagon Warnings on Iraqi Nuclear Goals Date to 1985

By Douglas Frantz and Murray Waas
Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Newly declassified documents describe fears within the U.S. government that Iraq was diverting technology to its nuclear-weapons program as early as 1985, much earlier than previously known.

The documents cast serious doubt on any assertions this week by President George Bush that the United States was unaware of any such diversion in the years before the Gulf War while Washington was providing billions of dollars in aid and technology to Baghdad.

The warnings about the nuclear strategy of Iraq are contained in Department of Defense documents that sought restrictions on exports of U.S. technology with nuclear uses to Iraq. One memo referred to a CIA report on an Iraqi strategy to develop nuclear weapons and the potential for diversion of technology from commercial programs to its arms effort.

Representative Sam Gejdenson, Democrat of Connecticut, made the documents available after the president's televised remarks. The material had been declassified by the Department of Defense at the request of Mr. Gejdenson, chairman of a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee investigating exports to Iraq.

"The administration's own documents tell us the president's denials are not true," Mr. Gejdenson said in an interview. "As early as 1985, the Defense Department said we cannot trust the Iraqis with nuclear technology because they are diverting it from other programs to their nuclear effort."

Mr. Gejdenson said that an analysis of U.S. exports approved for Iraq in 1985 and 1990 found 162 instances in which technology with potential nuclear applications was licensed for sale. United Nations inspectors in Iraq have reported finding some U.S. technology used in Iraq's nuclear-weapons facilities.

In an interview from the White House Rose Garden, Mr. Bush said emphatically that the United States was unaware of any diversion of U.S. technology to the Iraqi nuclear program.

"We didn't know that," Mr. Bush said. "The State Department didn't know that."

Iraqis Seek To Drain A Haven For Foes

To Drain A Haven For Foes

By Caryle Murphy and Nora Boustany
Washington Post Service

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Rabin Finds Coalition Is Elusive

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

JERUSALEM — Yitzhak Rabin, leader of the Labor Party, won a mandate Thursday to form Israel's next government, but parties of the left and right that he is wooing for a coalition held out for a better deal.

Mr. Rabin, saying President Chaim Herzog had asked him to assemble a government within 21 days, declared: "My goal is to arrive at a broad coalition that will enable us to carry out our main policies, that is to advance the peace process with priority given to the Palestinian delegation."

Mr. Rabin, 70, defeated Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's rightist Likud government last week.

But he has to entice at least two of the smaller parties into a coalition to ensure a majority in the 120-seat parliament. Labor, which has 44 seats, is trying to team up with the dovish Meretz bloc, which has 12, and the rightist Tzomet party, which has 8.

Meretz wants to see a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Tzomet is led by a former chief of staff, Rafael Eitan, who fiercely resists Mr. Rabin's pledge to curb Jewish settlement in occupied Arab land. Both say Labor's terms so far are unacceptable.

Mr. Rabin meeting the press Thursday in Jerusalem after President Herzog officially asked him to form a government.



Mr. Rabin meeting the press Thursday in Jerusalem after President Herzog officially asked him to form a government.

Algeria Appoints War Figure as Leader

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ALGIERS — All Kafi, a veteran of Algeria's war of independence, was chosen head of state Thursday to replace the assassinated President Mohammed Boudiaf.

A day after Mr. Boudiaf's burial, the State Council said Mr. Kafi, 64, had been elected unanimously by his fellow members of the collective leadership. He is secretary-general of the national organization of veterans of the eight-year war that won Algeria's independence from France in 1962.

Although his appointment conserves the committee's civilian veneer, the real power is likely to continue to be held by the defense minister, Major General Khaled Nezzar.

The government said Mr. Kafi's position on the council would be filled by Redha Malki, a former ambassador and minister.

Algerian newspapers, which operate under close official surveillance, reported Thursday that the suspected killer of President Boudiaf was associated with the Islamic Salvation Front and had acted out of religious conviction.

The Nation newspaper said the suspect's surname was Boumaraf and that he was 26.

"He is believed to have confessed"

U.S. Senate Pushes Through Russian Aid Bill

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The long-delayed package of U.S. aid to Russia has cleared a major congressional hurdle, with the Senate turning back a move to condition most of the aid on the withdrawal of Russian troops from Baltic countries.

The move was described as a back-door attempt to scuttle the aid program.

In an attempt to satisfy concerns about Russia's slowness in withdrawing troops from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, Foreign Relations Committee leaders proposed an alternative to start the money flowing, and to cut it off if the troop-removal conditions have not been met after a year.

A 12-month "grace period" was approved overwhelmingly Wednesday night after the more stringent conditions were defeated, 34 to 61.

The aid legislation, drafted by the Foreign Relations Committee along lines recommended by the administration, calls for a broad range of economic assistance to Russia and other republics of the former Soviet Union. It also includes a \$12 billion increase in the U.S. commitment to the International Monetary Fund.

Early counts indicated that the Russian aid package probably would be approved by the Senate. Members' qualms about voting for a big foreign aid bill during a recession and an election year were compounded by the rejection of the balanced-budget amendment.

To ease the qualms, aid proponents wrote in spending limits. These included an authorization of no more than \$620 million.

The Senate voted, 93 to 2, to remove provisions that would have relaxed criteria for determining the credit-worthiness of former Soviet republics in deciding whether to grant them credits for grain and other farm products.

It also included \$400 million already appropriated for 1992 aid to East European nations, including the three Baltic states, and \$450 million for next year.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Emirates, the airline of the United Arab Emirates, plans to start three-times-a-week service between Dubai and Jakarta on Aug. 10. Jakarta is the 29th destination of the Dubai-based airline, which already has developed links with Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok and Manila. (AP)

An indirect air link between China and Taiwan has been set up by Chinese and Taiwan travel agencies, the Xinhua press agency said Thursday. Philippine Airlines will fly three times a week from the mainland city of Xiamen to Manila and on to Taipei. The route will take 7 1/2 hours, about twice as long as via Hong Kong, but will cost slightly less. It will ease congestion on the overbooked Hong Kong route. (AP)

The Weather



Region	City	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow
North America	New York City	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Washington, D.C.	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Los Angeles	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Chicago	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	London	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Paris	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Madrid	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Rome	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Delhi	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80
	Tokyo	72/80	78/80	72/80	78/80

Legend: s-sunny, p-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, r-rain, dr-dry rain, snow, ice. All times, forecasts and data by Accu-Weather, Inc. ©1992

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The Race So Far
Profile
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CAMPAIGN BASICS / Ross Perot

The Race So Far

The unconventional billionaire has transformed political assumptions and profoundly shaped the fall campaign, though he has not formally entered the race as an independent. He is virtually tied with President George Bush and Governor Bill Clinton in national opinion polls, but he leads state surveys in California, Texas, and Florida. His appeal has altered the strategies of the other candidates, leading both to embrace a reformer image that Mr. Perot embodies. He says he will run if supporters gather enough petition signatures to place his name on the ballot in all 50 states. He has fueled his drive with numerous TV interviews, and he is on the ballot in 19 states so far. He often avoids detailed discussion of his views but vows to present coherent policies this fall. He plans to spend whatever is necessary of his own money to run a "world-class" campaign, thus avoiding the \$55 million spending ceiling his competitors will face when they accept public funds. He did not run in any party primary elections. If he fails to win the presidency but wins some states, he could be a kingmaker in the Electoral College by shifting his electoral vote to another candidate. He has shown marked distaste for President Bush's policies and style. White House officials have called him a "monster," "Heinz," "unpredictable," "paranoid," and a threat to the constitution. He says he is the victim of Republican "dirty tricks" that would make Hitler's propaganda chief proud.



Profile:

Age 62. Hard-driving, moralistic Dallas businessman and philanthropist. Net worth reportedly exceeds \$3 billion. Has never held public office. Despite bureaucracy, told an interviewer in 1970: "I would make a bad politician. I have no patience for red tape and inactivity." Born and raised in comfortable surroundings in East Texas. Attended the U.S. Naval Academy, class president. Complained about navy life and procedures and sought early discharge from active duty; served four years. Joined IBM and excelled as a computer salesman. Founded his own computer services company, Electronic Data Systems, in 1962 after IBM rejected his servicing idea. Won lucrative no-bid contracts to process government health insurance claims. A congressional investigation of EDS contract bids and profit margins was inconclusive. Preferred regimentation and conformity among his employees, many of whom were ex-military men. EDS growth was explosive. On one day in 1988, Mr. Perot's assets grew by \$200 million when the company went public. Became a folk hero with the publication of Ken Follet best-seller "On Wings of Eagles," which recounts his successful effort to break two EDS employees out of jail in Iran in 1979. Sold EDS to General Motors for \$2.5 billion in 1984. As GM's major shareholder and a board member, he failed to bring about major reforms in a bitter internal struggle. GM bought out his interest for \$700 million in 1986. Mr. Perot violated a separation agreement and formed a new company, Perot Systems, to compete with EDS. Friends regard him as direct, forceful, unpretentious, compassionate and a born leader who believes in pure democracy. Some former associates see him as uncompromising, ruthless, egotistic, autocratic and prone to attack the motives of those who disagree with him. He sought ties with the Nixon White House and helped finance United We Stand to rally support behind U.S. Vietnam policy. Financed many efforts to learn the whereabouts of U.S. soldiers missing in Southeast Asia and harshly criticized the Reagan and Bush administrations' handling of the issue. Has investigated suggestions that U.S. officials are suppressing information about missing soldiers for fear of revealing U.S. complicity in drug-smuggling in Asia. Pursued tips on the private dealings of George Bush when he was vice president. Spearheaded education reform and anti-drug efforts in Texas at the request of the governor. Gave freely to the Boy Scouts, ghetto schools, AIDS research, the arts, individuals in need of expensive medical treatment and political candidates of both parties. Loves to race fast boats. His heroes: his parents, Thomas Edison, the Wright brothers, Winston Churchill, Presbyterians. Married with five children.

the average guys have figured it out and nobody in Washington has. We're \$4 trillion in debt, and we don't have anything to show for it. . . . The Republican Party specifically has had a nasty campaign to redefine me in a negative way. . . . Who was in charge of anti-terrorism? George Bush. Who created Noriega? George Bush. Who was in the middle of Iran-contra? George Bush. For 10 years his fingerprints were all over creating Saddam Hussein and putting billions of taxpayer-guaranteed loans in Hussein's pocket. . . . Words are plentiful but deeds are precious. What do you think Lech Walesa was in Poland when the Communists had an absolutely iron grip on him? He was a shipyard worker. He was a nobody. Thank God he didn't understand that.

On the Issues:

Economy: Frequently attacks the federal debt. Backed away from early comment that he could eliminate the deficit "without breaking a sweat" by eliminating waste, fraud and abuse, among other things. Says that a tax increase would be used only in an emergency, such as war, or if "we are just unable to pay bills." Wants a closer relationship between government and business. Speaks admiringly of Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry but says he opposes a U.S. "industrial policy." Calls for simplifying the tax code to achieve "paperless" tax filing. Favors capital-gains tax cut. Opposes amending the constitution to require a balanced budget.

Trade: Wants to retaliate if other countries do not drop trade barriers. Opposes the U.S.-Mexico free trade pact. Decries the influence of Washington lobbyists — even though he has hired them on several occasions — and wants to ban lobbying on behalf of foreign governments and corporations. Says Washington has had inept trade negotiators.

Military and Foreign Affairs: Often harshly critical of U.S. policy toward Japan, saying Washington must toughen its stance, but declares "Japan is not our enemy." Wants to bill Germany and Japan \$50 billion each to pay for the stationing of U.S. troops. Opposed U.S. involvement in Kuwait and the Gulf War, saying the president ultimately got involved because his "manhood" had been challenged. Suggested Israeli-aided assassination of Saddam Hussein. Says that if Saudi Arabia were invaded he would impose a naval blockade of the Middle East as "just sand, snakes, scorpions and oil." Helped finance Oliver North's White House effort to free hostages in Lebanon. Agreed to finance an aborted Customs Service plan to lure drug dealers to a Caribbean island. Visited Hanoi in an effort to free missing U.S. soldiers and is accused by at least one former White House official of trying to "take over" sensitive government negotiations with Vietnam. Strongly backs helping Russian reforms succeed.

Education and Social Policy: At the Texas governor's request, he directed an effort to reform state public education, including the imposition of standardized tests for students and teachers, smaller classes and a rule barring participation on sports teams without passing grades. He also spearheaded a drive in Texas to toughen drug laws and sentencing. He favors the right to abortion and the right of women to choose. He opposes a waiting period to buy handguns, saying he will find a way to keep guns out of the hands of criminals "but it won't be pretty." He says he will not have cabinet members who are homosexuals or adulterers. He has long been fascinated by direct democracy and favors an "electronic town hall" in which citizens would learn about issues on television and record their views instantaneously by phone, computers or interactive TV. He wants the wealthy to voluntarily forgo Social Security and Medicare benefits. He sees pluses and minuses in preferential hiring for blacks and other minorities but has not stated a firm position on affirmative action. He has no specific health care plan, but he suggests a "rational analysis" of options and pilot programs to test ideas. He would use mobile military units to bring health care to poor areas. He favors the death penalty. He supports sex education in schools, but not organized prayer.

Energy and Environment: Only after the economy is sound and growing should major environmental tasks be undertaken. *Compiled by Paul F. Horvitz*

Cuomo Tells Democrats Hire Sleuths to Check on Bush

Clinton He Won't Take No. 2 Spot

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Democratic National Committee is spending up to \$30,000 this year on private investigators and outside researchers in an effort to find information that might undermine George Bush's record — including delving into the president's personal finances and looking for possible improprieties in government dealings with Bush relatives.

The inquiries are part of the committee's "opposition research" operation and mark the first time that it is known to have employed such outside firms. It is one sign of the escalating resources both parties are devoting to digging for negative information.

The search for such information has become a staple of modern presidential campaigns and has become so energetic and extensive that each of this year's candidates now is trying to embarrass the others by exposing the extent of their research efforts.

Media reports that Ross Perot employed private investigators in the past to pursue damaging information about Mr. Bush erupted into a major issue last week.

Since then, Republican and Democratic campaign officials have strongly defended their opposition research units, insisting that they were engaged in entirely legitimate inquiries into the public records of their opponents.

"Anything in search of the record is part of the process," said Betsy Wright, who is overseeing research for the campaign of the presumed Democratic nominee, Bill Clinton. "That's different from dirty tricks."

The Democrats believe that the record of administration officials involved in cases relating to Bush relatives may provide particularly fertile ground. Federal Election Commission reports and interviews with participants show that the Democratic National Committee earlier this year hired Denison & Samuel, a small Washington-based firm that, according to a brochure, specializes in "professional and discreet" investigations for labor unions involved in litigation or collective bargaining disputes.

The committee wanted the firm to investigate allegations that the government's 1988 shutdown of the Silverado Savings and Loan in Denver was influenced by political considerations relating to past service on the firm's board by Neil Bush, the president's son. Election Commission reports show the committee paid the firm a total of \$5,000 in March and April for either "compensation and fees" or "profit services."

Dan Carol, the committee's research director and chief of the party's opposition research unit, said the Democrats are planning to use another outside firm, not yet identified, to investigate aspects of the president's finances and past business affairs.

[Mr. Bush predicted Thursday that the hired investigators would "drill a dry hole" in looking for financial and business abuses, United Press International reported from Washington.

"Let them muck around in my garbage can," Mr. Bush said. "They're not going to find anything."

The opposition research departments of both parties — "oppo," in campaign lingo — consist largely of relatively junior staff members mining a wide array of computer data bases and public documents in search of inconsistencies, flip-flops, and past votes or statements that could tell as ammunition.

David Tell, 32, the chief of opposition research for the Bush-Quayle campaign, said he had been specifically barred from searching for personal information about either of the president's opponents, and that anybody on his staff of six will be dismissed for doing so.

But current and past officials say a high level of sensitivity surrounds "oppo" efforts. For example, the opposition research units of both parties have used law firms or "research" firms to file Freedom of Information Act requests of government agencies, collect court documents or search presidential archives when they do not want it known who is doing the searching.

The emphasis on opposition research is largely the result of the extraordinary effectiveness with which the Republicans have used negative information about opponents in recent campaigns.

A little-known opposition research team in the 1984 re-election campaign of Ronald Reagan uncovered irregularities in the financial statements of Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, and business "connections" between her husband, John Zaccaro, and organized crime figures — most of which was fed to journalists on the eve of the election, according to John B. Roberts, who spearheaded the effort for the Reagan-Bush re-election committee.

Navy Report Found Perot 'Immature'

Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Some senior officers under whom Ross Perot served in the U.S. Navy judged him to be "emotionally maladjusted" and too immature to be a career naval officer after a 1955 incident in which he criticized the service and requested an early discharge, government documents show.

The assessments, contained in official letters to the chief of naval personnel commenting on Mr. Perot's request, included one in which Captain G.H. Miller, then commander of the destroyer division that included the ship on which Mr. Perot was serving, said the young officer was "emotionally maladjusted for a regular navy career."

A second letter, sent to the secretary of the navy and the chief of naval personnel by Rear Admiral J.C. Daniel, commander of destroyer forces in the Atlantic fleet, said the evidence he saw "indicates that Perot is too immature to be entrusted with the leadership responsibilities inherent in sea duty."

Admiral Daniel recommended that Mr. Perot, then a lieutenant junior grade, be transferred to a "purely administrative" assignment ashore.

The Texas billionaire, an undeclared independent presidential candidate, has come under criticism for trying to obtain an early discharge after serving only 15 months of the four years of active duty that was required of Naval Academy graduates at the time.

Critics have suggested that Mr. Perot's actions raise questions about his personality and character that may be important to assessing his fitness for the presidency.

At the same time, qualities that some see as liabilities — in this case a tendency toward humbleness and unbending insistence on the correctness of his own values and opinions — are viewed by others as potential strengths for a president who must deal with the nation's problems.

Mr. Perot declined through a spokeswoman to comment on the report.

However, navy officials said that he complained vigorously to the navy after learning that the documents had been examined by the Los Angeles Times.

Officials said the Naval Investigative Service had begun an investigation to learn how the documents were disclosed.

Irate Lawyer Kills 2 in Texas Court

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FORT WORTH, Texas — A lawyer, bitter over the resolution of his divorce case, was in custody on \$2 million bail Thursday on charges of killing two attorneys and wounding two judges in a Fort Worth courtroom.

George Lott, 47, of Arlington, was arrested Wednesday afternoon at a Dallas television station, where he carried out the shootings to call attention to a judicial system he said was out of control.

Officials in Peoria, Illinois, said Mr. Lott faced trial there later this month on charges of sexually abusing his son.

Shortly before the shootings, Mr. Lott was rebuffed in his attempt to get a judge in Peoria to hear his arguments against the abuse charges, said Kevin Lyons, district attorney in Peoria.

Mr. Lyons said that Mr. Lott called the Peoria court clerk's office Tuesday and Wednesday, about an hour before the shootings.

The shootings began about 9:45 A.M. during a meeting of a panel of three judges in the Tarrant County Courthouse.

An assistant Tarrant County district attorney, Chris Marshall, 42, and a Dallas attorney, John Edwards, 33, were killed.

Judges John Hill, 48, and Clyde Ashworth, 69, were wounded. A third lawyer was grazed by a bullet.

The suspect, who used a handgun, escaped the courthouse in the ensuing confusion.

Authorities said there were 35 metal detectors in the courthouse but none was in use Wednesday.

Mr. Lott told the television station that his divorce case had gone against him and that he had been planning the shooting for months.

"I basically went in the courtroom and sat for a while and then got up apparently and shot five people. I was shooting at the court, essentially, but other people got in the way or did things," he said. "You've got to do a horrible, horrible thing to catch people's attention."

Reports said Mr. Lott was divorced from Margo Best, also a lawyer, about two years ago. She moved to Peoria, where she filed charges against him in March, accusing him of sexually abusing their son.

A Campaign To Sign Up U.S. Voters Abroad

International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — A non-partisan group representing Americans living overseas has launched a drive to register voters for the November elections, beginning at traditional Fourth of July picnics in many of the world's major cities.

The group, Federated League of Americans Around the Globe, or FLAAG, is seeking to identify unregistered U.S. citizens and is working with U.S. embassies and consulates, the two major political parties, American organizations, U.S. companies and most American Chambers of Commerce. Voting materials will be distributed at many Fourth of July picnics.

According to a FLAAG survey, one-third of Americans abroad who did not vote in 1988 said they did not know how to obtain an absentee voter's ballot, and 15 percent said they were unaware that they were eligible to vote. While about half of the U.S. electorate voted in the 1988 presidential election, only 38 percent of Americans abroad did so.

Iran Said to Print Phony \$100 Bills

Aim Is to Destabilize U.S. Economy, a House Report Says

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Iran is printing and circulating billions of dollars of counterfeit U.S. \$100 bills, according to a congressional report.

The counterfeit bills, described as "nearly perfect," are being circulated with the help of Syria through the international terrorist network and are showing up in Europe, Asia, Africa and the former Soviet republics, according to the report, issued by a panel of Republican House members.

The aim is to destabilize the U.S. economy while easing Iran's deficit and buying influence around the world, the report alleged.

While it could not be determined exactly how much fake U.S. money Iran has placed into circulation, the report said that in 1988, Representative Bill McCollum, Republican of Florida, chairman of the Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare.

"I believe there is the potential for billions of dollars of counterfeit U.S. currency to soon be in circulation, mainly outside of the U.S. banking system," Mr. McCollum said. "Evidence in this report supports estimates that such sums may already be in circulation. The im-

lications for the dollar's role as the international medium of exchange could be serious."

While most Americans rarely handle \$100 bills, they are commonly used in transactions abroad, and officials said they often are the preferred currency for bribes, money laundering and drug deals.

The Secret Service, which investigates counterfeiting of U.S. money, refused to comment. The task force, an arm of the House Republican caucus, said that it was issuing the report in response to erroneous information in Iranian English-language newspapers that the counterfeit bills were being produced by U.S. authorities.

The report said that Iran was manufacturing the counterfeit money with U.S.-built printing presses at the national mint in Tehran, using U.S.-trained chemists and expertise obtained from the United States by Iran during the reign of the shah. It said that the bills were being printed on a combination of locally manufactured paper and paper that could be "acquired only by governments."

Vaughn Forrest, the task force chief of staff, said the report was based on information from reliable sources in Iran and Syria.

The bills are being circulated worldwide with the help of Syria, which has been receiving weekly shipments by air from Tehran, the report said. In Syria, it said, the bills are packed in small quantities for distribution by drug networks in Lebanon, where they are exchanged for a much as 40 cents to 60 cents on the dollar. (AP, LAT)

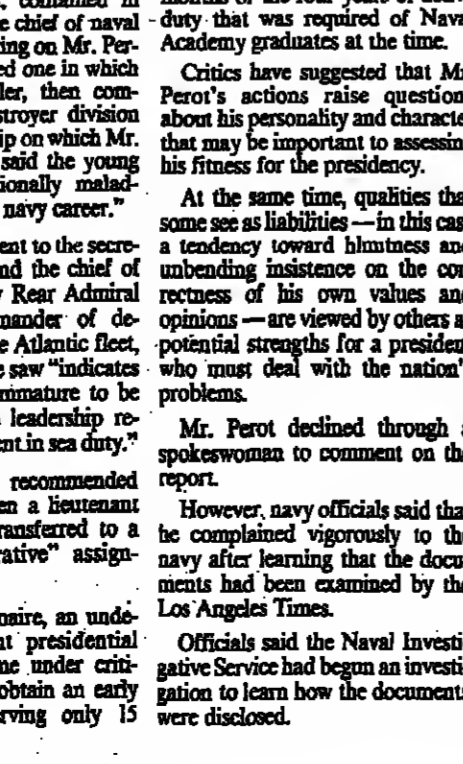
Gallbladder Surgery Is Likely for Sharon

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Housing Minister Ariel Sharon has been hospitalized with stones in his gallbladder and apparently will have to undergo surgery, a doctor said Thursday.

Mr. Sharon, 64, entered Tel Aviv's Tel Hashomer Hospital on Wednesday complaining of sharp pain in his right abdomen, said Dr. Yaakov Yahav, the hospital's deputy director.

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U.K. and China to Negotiate Colony Airport Funds

By Laurence Zuckerman
International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — British and Chinese officials will meet in Beijing starting Friday to try to end a simmering dispute over the financial arrangements for Hong Kong's \$14.4 billion new airport, officials said Thursday.

Sir John Coles, deputy undersecretary of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth office, will lead a team of seven British and Hong Kong officials who will meet with members of China's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs office.

The British team will try to allay Chinese concerns about the financing and cost of the vast development project, which includes a high-speed railroad, hundreds of acres of

land reclamation, and one of the world's longest suspension bridges.

The project has been a source of friction between London and Beijing ever since it was proposed after China's 1989 crackdown on democracy activists.

Last July, after months of wrangling, the two sides announced a memorandum of understanding on the project. In exchange for China's support, Britain promised to consult Beijing regularly and agreed to leave 25 million Hong Kong dollars (\$3.2 million) in the colony's treasury in 1997.

In an added concession, Prime Minister John Major of Britain became the first Western leader to visit China since the 1989 crackdown, when he traveled to Beijing last September to formally initial the memorandum alongside Prime Minister Li Peng.

The agreement ushered in a new period of cooperation that helped lift the Hong Kong economy. But relations have since deteriorated as China, along with many Hong Kong residents, became alarmed at the Hong Kong government's varying estimates of the airport's final cost, which has gone from 98.6 billion 1991 Hong Kong dollars to as high as 163.7 billion 1997 Hong Kong dollars.

Hong Kong officials say the colony is planning to put up only 13.6 billion Hong Kong dollars for the project, the remainder coming from the private sector and borrowings.

But another source of misunderstanding with Beijing is an additional 5.9 billion Hong Kong dollars that the Hong Kong government plans to make available to cover any possible cost overruns.

Beijing views this as debt, while Hong Kong officials say it is merely a contingency fund that probably will not be needed.

Hong Kong officials are eager to obtain Beijing's approval so they can begin approaching international bankers about securing loans. But Beijing is suspicious of some kind of British financial trick and has also been using the airport issue to pressure Britain to back away from asking for more democratic concessions for Hong Kong.

Mr. Major and Mr. Li met again last month at the Earth Summit meeting in Brazil and agreed that British and Chinese officials should hold another high-level meeting to break the impasse.

Mr. Coles flew to Beijing from Hong Kong on Thursday.

ASIAN TOPICS

Hiring Private Eyes For Self-Assessment

Japanese businessmen who want to know what their associates really think of them are hiring private investigators to find out. The Associated Press reports from Tokyo. Last year, private eyes conducted about 2,000 such investigations in Tokyo alone, said Kosei Tashiro, director of the 123-member Japan Investigators' Association.

Mr. Tashiro said most clients are mid-level officials of banks, brokerages and trading companies. Investigations cost an average of \$800.

He said that clients aren't interested in self-improvement. Instead, they want to know what sort of future they can expect at their companies. Investigators sometimes go to bars frequented by their clients and talk casually to colleagues or waitresses.

One typical report quoted a colleague who said of the client that although his prospects for a better job were nil, "at least he won't be fired unless he makes a major mistake."

Noboru Hozumi, a psychiatrist at Minami Otsuka Clinic, surmised that businessmen order the reports because they suspect nobody tells them the truth to their faces. He noted

that the Japanese frequently resort to *tatemae*, the diplomatic words that mask *honne*, or real feelings.

Around Asia

Chinese authorities appear to be easing up on censorship of films. According to a report in the official *Legal Daily*, the film bureau chief of the Ministry of Radio, Film and Television said this month that the bureau would reconsider films that had previously not received approval. The *Legal Daily* did not explain the shift in policy. It could be a sign of liberalization in the arts. It also could reflect the fact that Chinese moviegoing is dropping fast. Since the crackdown on democracy three years ago, the ministry has primarily endorsed propaganda films, and the number of filmgoers has declined. It went down by about 20 percent in 1991 and is expected to decline by 30 percent more this year, official press reports say.

The *Bumhbay Samachar*, which claims to be Asia's oldest newspaper, observed its 170th birthday this week. The Gujarati-language paper was started in 1822 as a weekly shipping and cargo bulletin. It became a daily in the 1930s. Today it uses computerized typesetting and has a circulation of 150,000. The editorial emphasis continues to be on commerce and finance.

Arthur Higbee

Spy Tales (Cleansed) From the KGB Files

MOSCOW — Russia said Thursday that it would open the KGB archives for a series of books about Soviet espionage operations in the West.

A deal with an American publisher will include a book on the 1961 Cuban missile crisis, which pushed Moscow and Washington to the brink of nuclear war.

A Russian Intelligence Service spokesman said two other books would cover KGB operations in Britain and the United States in the 1950s and 1960s.

Yuri Khabaladze said at a news conference that the Russian Intelligence Service, the KGB's successor, was about to sign a deal with Random House to publish a number of books detailing some of the KGB's foreign operations.

"The project's aim is to give a broader picture of some major world events," he added. "It will be serious research, not James Bond adventures."

Mr. Khabaladze said a book on the 1940 murder of Leon Trotsky, Stalin's rival who was forced into exile abroad, would conclude the series.

Each book will be written by one U.S. and one Russian writer, who will be supplied with files from the KGB archives selected by the Russian Intelligence Service.

"All the files are to be severely filtered," Mr. Khabaladze said. "We will open only those which do not harm Russia's national security interests and have no operative value."

He said the names of KGB foreign agents and technical details would not be disclosed.

Mr. Khabaladze said Oleg Tsvarev, an intelligence officer who works for the press office, would write the first book. He said authors for the other books were being considered.

He said Random House would choose the American co-authors.

"But we have the right to veto any candidate who we might consider unsuitable," he said.

Random House will be granted the right to publish and sell the English versions everywhere except in Russia and other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and also in Germany and Japan.

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De Klerk Accuses ANC of Making 'Artificial Crisis'

By David B. Ottaway
Washington Post Service

JOHANNESBURG — President Frederik W. de Klerk accused the African National Congress and its allies Thursday night of creating an "artificial crisis" in the country as part of a plan to overthrow his government by force.

Replying to the ANC's conditions for a resumption of constitutional talks with the government, the president said he would not hesitate to take "all steps necessary to prevent the country from sliding into anarchy."

"There is every reason to believe the ANC is simply fabricating excuses to break off the negotiations

and to cause an artificial crisis," Mr. de Klerk said in a message broadcast over the state-run radio.

He charged that the ANC, together with its main allies the South African Communist Party and the Congress of South African Trade Unions, known as COSATU, had decided on an agenda aimed at "seizure of power."

"They want to force their views on the rest of our society through confrontation and mass mobilization," he said. "This will not be tolerated."

The ANC's ultimate goal is "to overthrow the government by coercion," Mr. de Klerk said, adding: "Any change of government must

come about in a negotiated constitutional manner."

The ANC has embarked upon a campaign of mass action—strikes, street demonstrations and other protests—and COSATU, the biggest black labor confederation, has called for a nationwide general strike starting Aug. 3.

Last night, Minister Hermanus Kriel said in Pretoria later that Mr. de Klerk's statement that the government would take "all steps necessary" to prevent anarchy did not mean it was considering the imposition of a new state of emergency.

He said that there were only a few "hot spots" around the country and that the government had "am-

ple provisions" to deal with them under present security legislation.

"No, we're not considering a national state of emergency at this stage," Mr. Kriel said.

The hard line taken by Mr. de Klerk and his ministers seemed to indicate that this side, the government and the ANC, has decided to dig in its heels and accept the risks of further confrontation rather than appear weak in the eyes of the other.

The only offer the government made to ease the crisis was a renewal of an earlier call for a two-day summit meeting with the ANC to discuss its various demands regarding measures to curb the violence.

Mr. de Klerk and his ministers did not provide specific replies to the ANC's 14 demands for resuming talks. But they handed out documents explaining in detail the government's position on each point as well as a summary of its various constitutional proposals.

They also made it clear that they felt the government had already taken numerous steps to curb the violence, while ANC leaders had done much to aggravate the situation with inflammatory rhetoric.

Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said the government was calling "as urgently as possible" for a meeting between Mr. de Klerk and the two most important black leaders, Nelson Mandela of the ANC, and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, to discuss ways of easing the violence.



President Valentine Strasser of Sierra Leone, 27, speaking Thursday at a news conference in Dakar, Senegal, during OAU meeting.

AFRICA: Busting the Coup Trap

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of the OAU. General Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria — has said he will voluntarily step down to make way for a democratic transition to civilian rule this year.

General Babangida, a military coup-maker converted to democracy, warned his fellow presidents that some of them may be in for tough times trying to hold on to power in the face of pressure for more pluralism. "Africa cannot and should not be immune from the political developments taking place in the world," he said.

Such warnings may sound mild. But they are revolutionary when weighed against the OAU's penchant for avoiding direct criticism of any member state, a policy long defended as "noninterference" in one another's internal affairs.

The policy led to criticism of the OAU as a mere "talking shop," torn by such inconsistencies as lambasting human rights abuses in white-ruled South Africa while ignoring the same abuses in black African states. The organization's credibility suffered when it held its annual meeting in countries — Uganda, for example — whose dictators were imprisoning, torturing and killing their people.

"While our organization has

championed the cause of freedom from foreign and racist domination," Mr. Chiluba said, "African nations chose to be blind to the many inequalities and injustices existing within our own borders."

Salim Ahmed Salim, the OAU secretary-general, conceded the organization with Africa Report magazine that "made mistakes" over the years. "It should never have allowed the violation of human rights to be done with impunity," he said. "We had situations of massive killings in some cases, we have had characters who not only vilified our people and our continent but got away with murder, and we kept quiet."

The OAU also has been stymied by its divergent makeup: Arab states in the north and majority black states to the south. In addition, the Cold War had divided the continent between the pro-Western states and the pro-Soviet ones. The only issue all agreed on was South Africa.

"Without the South African issue, the discussion turns to the problems between the states themselves, or internally within African states," said a UN diplomat in Dakar. "Those issues are much more difficult. Once the South African issue recedes, this organization will become more and more irrelevant."

BUSH: Dilemma on the Economy

(Continued from page 1)

Iowa, whose specialty is election forecasting, has calculated that all five times since World War II when the unemployment rate was falling in the second quarter of the election year, the incumbent's party won the presidency: 1948, 1964, 1972, 1984 and 1988.

On the other hand, the unemployment rate was rising, as it was this year, or flat during the April through June quarter in six election years, and the incumbent party lost five of those elections, in 1952, 1960, 1968, 1976 and 1980.

Mr. Bush has said privately and, according to his staff, publicly that he did not expect voters to begin focusing intently on the election until the fall. But some of his chief advisers are not sure he is right.

"We could be at a turning point really beginning to pay attention," Stuart E.izenstat, who was President Jimmy Carter's chief domestic policy adviser, said he learned first-hand in 1980 the consequences of a sour economy four or five months before the election.

"Voters lock into the economy on Election Day but the summer before," Mr. Eizenstat said. "And unless something really dramatic happens, unless there's a

really big change in circumstances, their perceptions don't change."

Doo Sipple, a Republican political consultant, called Thursday's employment data "very bad news for Bush and the Republicans."

"Right now, the American people are focused on economic issues," Mr. Sipple said. "Mr. Bush suggests that the economy is making a comeback, but events in the real world defy that."

Mr. Sipple said he was worried that Mr. Bush's plans for the next month could send a signal that he is unconcerned. The president leaves next week for the economic summit meeting in Munich. Then he plans to take a vacation.

In the first three months of this year, the economy grew by 2.7 percent, meager by historical standards in the aftermath of a recession but still the strongest quarter in three years. Based on their public statements, officials clearly felt they were out of the woods.

Toward the end of May, economic conditions began to turn, much as they did last summer, and June was clearly worse than May.

At staff meetings, officials said, Mr. Boskin began cautioning that the recovery might be lagging and said he was getting pessimistic reports from the business executives he sees regularly.

China and Hanoi Set Spratly Talks

Beijing — China sought to calm fears over a territorial dispute with Vietnam saying the two sides were preparing to hold negotiations on the issue.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said conflicting claims over the Spratly Islands, which led to a naval battle between the two sides in 1988, would not be allowed to harm their improving relationship.

The spokesman reiterated China's claim to sovereignty over the Spratlys, but said: "The disputes will not affect the normal development of relations."

California Uses IOUs For Payroll

LOS ANGELES — California has started meeting its payroll with state-issued IOUs for the first time since the Depression after the legislature failed to meet a budget deadline.

State Treasurer Kathleen Brown, Democrat, called the failure of the Republican governor, Pete Wilson, and the Democratic-controlled legislature to meet the deadline "a national disgrace."

While the recession has made cutbacks necessary in many states, now faces the problems of California. California has lost 500,000 jobs in the last two years, about 30 percent of the nation's total.

A budget compromise in the state Senate was dashed by the unwillingness of Democrats in the lower house to make cuts in education programs, as Mr. Wilson had insisted.

The California legislature has failed many times in the past to meet its budget deadline but usually has had enough money on hand to continue paying its bills. Now, with the state running an \$11-billion deficit, it has reluctantly issued registered warrants described as "promises to pay."

The numbered warrants are equivalent to postdated checks, which can be cashed as money becomes available.

RELIEF: Canadian UN Force Bulls Way to Sarajevo

(Continued from page 1)

of the mechanized infantry battalion "figured that he had wasted enough time," said General Mackenzie.

Delays had kept the Canadians on the road for three days, as of Thursday morning, on a journey of more than 300 kilometers from Croatia. The trip was expected to take one day.

The Canadian battalion, which had secured guarantees of free passage from Bosnian Serbian officials, was tired and fed up with delays by the time it ran into the no-go order, the general said.

The battalion halted its retreat Thursday morning and returned to the troublesome roadblock. General Mackenzie said that by this time "the local commander was sober."

Permission to cross the roadblock was again denied, the general said, and sniper fire filled the air around the convoy.

Colonel Michel Jones, commander of the Canadian battalion, ordered the deployment of sniper teams and of armored vehicles equipped with wire-guided TOW anti-tank missiles, General Mackenzie said.

The Canadian colonel told the Serbs at the roadblock, who were armed only with machine guns and other small weapons, to get out of the road because he was coming through in 30 minutes, the general said.

When Colonel Jones saw that the Serbs, rather than backing off, were calling for reinforcements, he shortened his deadline to five minutes and rolled forward with ar-

more vehicles, General Mackenzie said.

The Canadian general said he was pleased with the firm manner in which his fellow Canadian officer had muscled 750 troops, 80 armored vehicles and several score of trucks through the roadblock. No shots were fired by the Canadians, the general said, and one of them was injured by Serbian fire.

The roadblock incident marks the first time that UN forces have been able to use overwhelming firepower to intimidate bothersome local Serbs into going along with a peacemaking operation.

On several occasions in the past three months, as Serbian forces have shelled and attempted to starve Sarajevo, smaller UN convoys have had to back down from confrontations with the Serbs.

Seven weeks ago, Serbian gunmen in Sarajevo stripped UN soldiers of their firearms. Last month the UN was forced to abandon two seriously wounded Bosnians who had been hit by Serbian machine guns as they tried to deliver baby food to a sealed-off Sarajevo suburb.

With the UN now in a military position to control the airport, it appears that shortages of food and medicine in Sarajevo will be corrected within the next week.

[British and American relief flights were ready to join the effort and the European Community approved an appropriation of \$130 million for supplies. The Associated Press reported from Brussels.]

A senior Bosnian official said that opening the airport was merely "a show."

"It is not solving the problem," said Ejup Ganic, a Muslim member of Bosnia's seven-member collective presidency, he added: "The city is still surrounded. I cannot travel out of here. I can only get water and milk from the sky. Do you call that the end of the siege?"

Serbian forces continue to control about two-thirds of the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina, after an April offensive that razed scores of Muslim-majority towns and villages in the east of the republic.

More than 1.4 million Bosnians, most of them Muslims, have been forced to leave their homes.

Serbian Prime Minister

Milan Panic, an American businessman born in Belgrade, said Thursday that he was returning to his native country to become prime minister of what remains of Yugoslavia — Serbia and Montenegro, Reuters reported from Washington.

Mr. Panic said at the National Press Club that his first goal was to stop the fighting in his homeland and work for lasting peace, but he declined to say how he could do that.

Mr. Panic, chairman of ICN Pharmaceuticals, a conglomerate based in Costa Mesa, California, said he received word that the Treasury had exempted him from U.S. sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia by executive order last month.

The sanctions, economic and political, are intended to pressure the Serbian leadership of President Slobodan Milosevic to cease attacks against Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Some of Manhattan's curious as they surveyed the bunkerlike French-made facilities.

WC: Inured to Crime, New York Is Agog Over a Toilet

(Continued from page 1)

away. One returned and threatened Mr. Mohammed with a knife, he said.

The pairs of toilets — now placed on 125th Street in Harlem, in City Hall Park and on 34th Street across from Macy's department store — are an experiment to be evaluated at the end of four months. If the experiment works, the city might install as many as 100 in various locations throughout the five boroughs.

Each toilet cost \$60,000 to build,

but it was not taxpayer money, said Pierre Jeanjean, technical director of JCDcaux, the manufacturer. The company is donating them, hoping to make back its money, and also some, by selling advertising space on the toilets.

JCDcaux installed the first toilets in Paris in 1980. Asked about vandalism, a company spokesman in Paris said there was none to speak of. "There isn't much to vandalize on the outside," he said, "it's a concrete booth. And why pay 2 francs to break a mirror inside

when you can smash a bus shelter window for free?"

But in New York, Vincent Hamill, an actor, saw things differently. He did not stop to try out the toilet but volunteered some suggestions.

"They should have a button inside you can push if someone gets in there with you and tries to hold you up. A light would start blinking on the top and a siren would go off and the cops would know someone in there is in trouble," Mr. Hamill said. "This is New York. This isn't Europe or anything."

Prime Minister Quits, Wales Rejects Move

WARSAW — Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak resigned Thursday after failing to win support from the fractured parliament, but President Lech Walesa refused to agree.

Mr. Walesa in effect asked Mr. Pawlak to continue in office. Without a motion from the president, Parliament cannot act on the resignation.

88 Die in China Downpour

BEIJING — Torrential rains and landslides have left 88 people dead and injured 300 in southern China's Guizhou Province, according to the *China Daily*, which also reported Thursday that the Yangtze River has risen to dangerous levels.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED		
(Continued From Back Page)		
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INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

For the Next South Africa

Township political violence rocks South Africa, constitutional talks have collapsed and bitter recriminations go on between the white minority government and the African National Congress.

security forces will be brought under control and will no longer serve as accomplices in the continuing murders and revenge killings.

Abortion: Undue Burdens

Two Classes of Women

The Supreme Court's 5-4 abortion decision turned out humane and honorable, yet it still puts American women into two classes: those who live in the right states or have money for travel, and can easily exercise the right to abortions; and those — the young, the rural and the poor — who cannot.

been trying hard to spare her parents. But at least she got to court. Some of these kids have no idea how to apply, or they think they'll have to face a jury.

Away From the Court

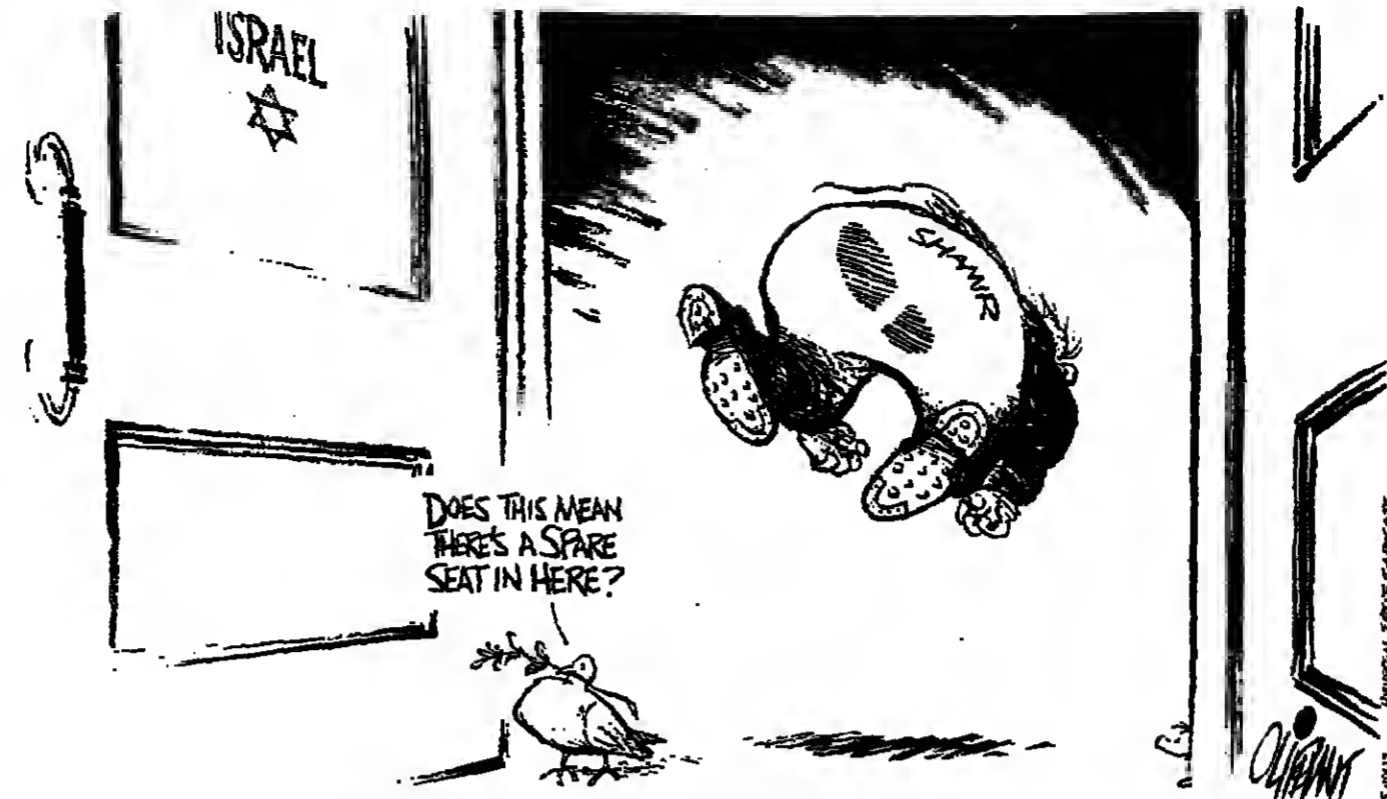
If the Supreme Court had overturned Roe v. Wade on Monday, the political pressure on Congress to pass the Freedom of Choice Act would have been irresistible.

sions and would also allow states to exclude abortion coverage from Medicaid programs. The bill's sponsors have both preemptive and political goals.

Restyle the L.A. Police

In Los Angeles, the most closely scrutinized police force in the country is undergoing overhaul. Gone is police chief Daryl Gates and with him, we hope, an overly aggressive and incident-oriented patrol style that left the city with America's second-highest financial settlement rate for police brutality cases.

phia, when 400 officers were out on his first day as chief. The California government failed to adopt a new budget on time this week and ran out of money.



Israelis and Palestinians Know They Must Choose

JERUSALEM — As always, there are two ways of looking at things here. What is new since the elections is that the divide goes smack across the Israeli-Palestinian line instead of clinging to it.

activists regretting "the happy ride with Shamir when we knew exactly where things stood." Both sides know they now face a lot of hard questions they've been dodging.

putting all the weight on bilateral negotiation. Some, looking to at least a tacit end of the Arab boycott, are already thinking of specific economic deals, perhaps discreet use of the Israeli pipeline to deliver Arab oil to the Mediterranean.

Taiwan's Locomotive Is Pulling the Mainland Along

TAIPEI — Taiwan may well be taking over the Chinese mainland using what Mao Zedong described as "sugar-coated bullets." Once thought to be inevitably part of Mao's new Communist China, Taiwan has reversed roles to become a key force shaping the economic and political future of the mainland.

power in Asia have been enhanced by political reforms and the process of democratization that followed the ending of martial law in 1987.

The mainland is Taiwan's fastest growing export market. Two-way trade was worth \$5.8 billion in 1991, up from \$1.5 billion in 1987.

We Did Know — but We Didn't Care

WASHINGTON — In 1945, a British army major named Derrick Singleton witnessed the liberation of Bergen-Belsen, the Nazi concentration camp, and wrote afterward that he was unprepared for what he found there.

President George Bush, having recently declared the United States preeminent in world affairs, then mobilized U.S. power and prestige. He is less culpable than certain European leaders for what has happened to Yugoslavia, but his hardy been his proudest hour.

The writer, senior research fellow in the Department of International Relations at the Australian National University in Canberra, is writing a book on Taiwan. He contributed this to the International Herald Tribune.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

- 1892: Rio Grande Rebels VALPARAISO — The rebels in the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, have now gained the mastery in every city and town in the state, except Bage. General Hippolito has arrived at Santa Anna, at the head of 1,800 disciplined troops, and an attack is to be made on Bage, which is defended by 4,000 Federal Soldiers.

Watch Him Shake Up U.S. Policy

By Leslie H. Gelb NEW YORK — Barring surprises, Lee Hamilton will become chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee next year.

His goals could readily vaporize in the hands of a less determined and knowledgeable politician. But Mr. Hamilton, though gentlemanly and soft-spoken, also seems to have the steel and skill to be a powerhouse.

Mr. Hamilton's strongest opposition could come from the institutional inertia of the committee itself. Congressional committees tend to develop their own styles. The House Armed Services Committee, for example, has been an independent and highly centralized operation since the days of Senator J. William Fulbright.

Mr. Hamilton is far less likely than his predecessors to salute a desperate call from the White House. He will listen, politely and seriously as always, then make up his own mind.

CAIRO — [From our New York edition:] British imperial forces, strongly reinforced from the Middle East, have encircled Field Marshal Rommel's Afrika Korps on the Egyptian coast 60 miles west of the Alexandria naval base and are hammering at it with all available weapons from front, flank and rear, it was learned tonight [July 2].

Various small advertisements and notices on the right edge of the page, including 'The Bro Will D' and 'ACROSS'.

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مکان العمل

OPINION

The Break on Perot Will Decide It All

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Let me set down my madcap for a moment to don Olympian robes and deliver a thunderspeech: Whether the presidential campaign of 1992?

As the novelty wears off, the summer wears on and more troubling facts emerge, Perotmania will ebb.

This is a personal choice, in which personalities count heavily, but voters' central decision is whether to accept or reject George Bush.

As the novelty wears off, as summer wears on, and as more troubling facts emerge about Ross Perot's manipulations, Perotmania will ebb.

and the large "I'm-only-looking" element of his support will remain only tentatively committed.

Conservative women who feel strongly about abortion rights will also have to decide "most likely to beat Bush" and will choose pro-choice Clinton over pro-choice-but Perot.

Will this give Mr. Clinton enough to catch Mr. Bush and win? We here on Olympus know the answer, of course, but that would require revealing the stunning, unexpected event that will take place in the run-up to Halloween, which I am not at liberty to vouchsafe at this time.

The New York Times.

Bill Day Detroit Free Press



The Candidates Push the Journalists Off the Stage

By Richard Harwood

WASHINGTON — It seems like only yesterday that the "power of the press" was a perfectly respectable topic for doctoral dissertations and serious cocktail party conversation.

But Mr. Clinton survived, easily won the race for the Democratic nomination and pricked the popular image of the press as kingmaker.

announced his candidacy on "Larry King Live"; he may decide to forgo the campaign plane altogether and run his campaign by satellite linkup.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Last Best Hope

Regarding "The Riot and the Dream" (Letters, May 29): Bill Kilpatrick takes exception to Abraham Lincoln's description of America as "the last best hope on earth."

colu was thus justified in pleading that civil war not be allowed to tear asunder "the last best hope..."

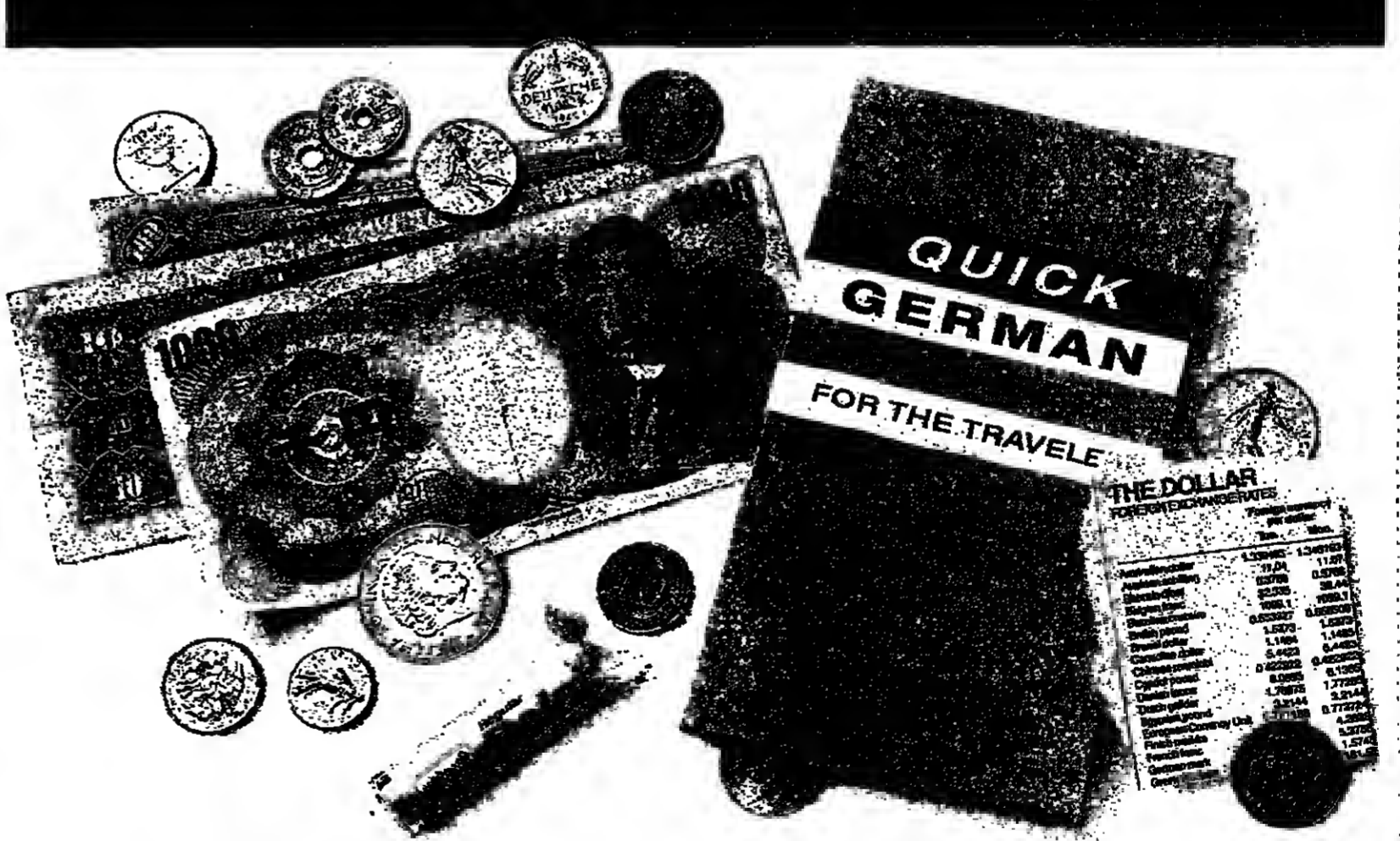
might at least receive an education of value about right actions in a free society. The alternative appears to be the self-righteous rambles of Mr. McCarthy's Republicans.

Republican Values

Regarding "A Civil War of Values" (Letters, June 16): John J. McCarthy bemoans, among other things, "value-free education."

Just FYI Regarding "Ideas for the '90s: Merge the Northern Acronyms" (Opinion, June 23): Although the headline mentions acronyms, the article itself lists such organizations, real and imagined, as OECD, NATO, OES and CSCE.

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Table listing international access numbers for various countries including Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, and Puerto Rico.

- CROSSWORD clues: 1 Nissan or Nash, 4 Up and about, 9 Wanton woman, 13 Dagon or Baphomet, 15 Construction-site apparatus, 16 Anagram for sure, 17 Patriarch, 19 Speak frankly, 20 Punish, 22 Lawman, 24 Maze, 24 Adjunct to a mosque, 25 Modified, 29 "When I was..." Gilbert, 30 Patriot Tom, 31 Change a choice, 36 Hue, 36 Sub detector, 37 Peck role: 1936

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting positions for words.

- CROSSWORD clues: 39 Resumed a discussion, 41 Make (grimace), 42 Review, of a kind, 43 Montana neighbor, 45 Decorated walls, 48 Labor gp., 49 Take it with salt, 50 Recommendation, in a way, 55 Stock-market activity, 57 Peace Nobel: 1984, 58 Game linked to lotto, 59 Ruth, 60 Rose's attribute

Solution to Puzzle of July 2

Solution to a word search puzzle with words like SCHAP, OBRA, ABED, ORTIB, ALAN, COLE, LADLE, HANDSHAKE, ITTSABURDITY, ZAP, BATA, WED, BLUCLAW, ITALO, HAN, DRESSE, DUPIN, ESSO, SERUM, TUCK, ATHREPTICE, TIE, SLOAN, SERE, ERA, TIVE, BUSTINESSUIT, REDLETTA, HELGA, ALDA, EZRA, ORNOT, MYTH, EYOT, YSIARIS.

- CROSSWORD clues: 61 Espied, 62 Swiss town, 63 Luthian uncle, 11 Famous Dodge, 12 Romeo and Juliet get-together, 14 Pay heed, 15 Of a sepulchral object, 21 Shredded, 24 Israeli mountaintop fortress, 25 Skillful, 28 Highway, 29 Prong, 27 Uttered in a monotone, 32 Ending for ethyl, 33 Carbonize, 34 Core of rapport, 36 Musical intervals, 38 Actress Arthur, 40 Slayer of Achilles, 41 Competent, 44 Three-time losers, 45 Prepares to move, 46 Be in harmony, 47 Recumbent, 49 Kingly name in Thailand, 51 A London prolagonist, 52 Unmannered, 53 Molecular unit, 54 Device for Walton, 56 Balderdash

I H T I S U R E

Welsh Back Roads: Come Hear a Choir Rehearsals Are Open to Visitors

By John Rockwell
New York Times Service

TUMBLE, England — Even if one has driven often in Britain, getting behind the wheel of a tiny stick-shift car again, with all the gears and levers and directions backward, can still seem a shock. Add to that nighttime and street signs in an unfamiliar language, and you have a recipe for confusion.

That explains why I was late for my visit to a Thursday evening rehearsal of Cor Meibion Mynydd Mawr, one of Wales's renowned male choirs. I had set out boldly from Cardiff toward the tiny town of Tumble (it's called by its English name, but also known in Welsh as Y-Tymble), 60 miles (100 kilometers) northwest of the Welsh capital. The first 40 miles on the M4 motorway were easy enough, but the motorway ends at Pont Abraham. I had with me a complex series of instructions through a series of unpronounceable little towns, all in the dark with precious few signs or street lamps. I overshot the mark, getting off the A48 at Llandarog and doubling back along a road too small to have a number on my map, through Drefach and Cwm Mawr to Tumble. It would no doubt have been quite scenic had I been able to see a blessed thing. Tumble itself looked utterly abandoned, with no one on the sidewalks from whom to beg directions.

However, everyone has a latent detective instinct. I was in search of a chorus rehearsal. Chorus singers come in cars. I drove about until I found a goodly number of cars parked along an otherwise empty road. I got out, cocked an ear and heard distant manly sounds. I walked behind a dark and empty church, found a door with light peeping out through the cracks — the many sounds were getting madder by the minute — opened the door and was confronted with a very welcoming sight indeed. About 55 men sat in folding chairs in the Bethesda Chapel Vestry, the village's Congregational Church meeting hall. The older men, who were in the majority, were dressed mostly in tweed coats, long-sleeved shirts, ties and sweaters, with the younger members trading the coats for zip-up jackets and dispensing with the ties and, usually, the sweaters.

They faced their conductor, Rhydidd Williams, and, accompanied at the piano by the sole woman in the room, forged their way through short snippets that ranged from Welsh hymns to a Schubert song ("Lorelei") in choral arrangement to operatic excerpts (the Anvil Chorus from Verdi's "Trovatore," sung in Welsh) to a Maori tune in the original.

Visitors seem reasonably rare here, but are not unprecedented. The reputation of Welsh male choral singing has spread far beyond Wales. The 70-odd active male choirs, in southwestern Wales, the center of Welsh choral activity of this type, generally rehearse twice weekly in community or church meeting halls just like Tumble's.

THE Welsh Tourist Board, eager to lure visitors to this ruggedly handsome but chronically depressed region, will provide potential tourists with rehearsal schedules as well as contact telephone numbers. The choruses can also be heard regularly in local concerts, in Cardiff, in London and in regional or Welsh nationalisteddods, or competitive choral festivals.

The male choirs' repertory reflects popular taste, not the more elevated concerns of Western art music; that is left more to mixed groups that can address choral staples like the Handel oratorios and the Brahms and Verdi Requiem. The male choirs stick with popular favorites, and the bulk of the singers rehearse and perform from memory and

learn new repertory using the old Welsh tonic sol-fa system of notation. This is a simplified way of writing music, without staves, in which geometric shapes stand for different pitches. "Eighty percent of our singers use the sol-fa system," Williams said.

Rehearsals are conducted with a formal politeness that matches the attire, and are almost exclusively in Welsh. "Every member is a Welsh speaker but for one Englishman, and he's learning," Williams reported. There wasn't much in the way of musical admissions from Williams; the singers were polishing up repertory for an approaching concert, and most of these chestnuts they had sung innumerable times before, anyhow.

COR Meibion Mynydd Mawr translates as the Great Mountain Male Choir, and at full tilt they made a stirring sound. The voices reverberated through the hall, but the singers did tend to be on the oldish side and their sound was a bit imbalanced: fervent, sonorous baritones and basses but tenors thin and unblended and just a little quavery. For although 55 singers make a bracing sight and sound, conventional wisdom has it that the tradition of Welsh male choral singing is threatened on several fronts.

"We lost six or eight in the last year," Williams reported later in his living room back in Drefach, on the other side of the Gwendraeth Valley. Nearly all the singers live in the valley, within 10 to 15 miles of Tumble. "They passed away. There's been a lot of illness — heart complaints and such."

The choir was founded in 1965, and after a peak membership of more than 100 in the mid-'70s, it slumped to 45 in the mid-'80s and has now grown again to a membership list of about 65. "We've got lots of oew members in the last six months," Williams said proudly. The choir has won several prizes at the Royal National Eisteddfods, made recordings and toured to Cardiff, London and Europe.

Still, while Williams's choir has one 19-year-old and one 20-year-old, it has been difficult for many of the choirs to attract younger members. Rugby stadiums can erupt in choral singing, but not like the spontaneous four-part harmonizing from 10,000 or 15,000 throats that Williams, who is 65 and who stands in the middle of five generations of Welsh choral singers and conductors, remembers from his youth.

Tenors are especially hard to come by, and the best are in such demand that they belong to three or four different groups. "Everybody is hungry for tenors," said Williams. The Royal National Eisteddfods used to limit entry to choirs with more than 200 members, but 100 is a big number oow, and the rules have been relaxed.

Despite the deserved Welsh reputation for musicality, the male choral tradition dates back only 100 years, and the Welsh-language repertory is largely a product of this century's revived interest in native Welsh culture. Male choral singing here is inextricably linked with the coal and steel industries of Wales, which arose with 19th-century industrial capitalism and which are now dying out, victims of foreign competition, alternative energy sources and exhausted seams.

"The choral tradition started with the miners north of Cardiff," said Williams, whose first name, Rhydidd, means freedom. "They worked close together and depended on one another. The communities were close-knit, isolated in their valleys. People from Rhoads would only go to Cardiff on a special trip."

It isn't just the loss of the region's economic base that has threatened the male choral tradition. "The younger people have so many other things now that interest them," Williams lamented.



Welsh voices raised in song: left, the Cor Meibion Mynydd Mawr rehearsing in Tumble; right, the Pendyrus Male Choir in Tylorstown.

In Madrid, the Parade Will Be Baroque

By Al Goodman

MADRID — Only 227 years after the government banned it, a Baroque festival returns to Madrid in July for a one-week stand, offering a nightly parade and a stage show of comedy and morality.

The \$3.8 million extravaganza, with 250 performers, may yet prove that Madrid too can play it big in Spain's climactic year of 1992. So far, Seville's enormous Expo honoring Columbus and Barcelona's impending Olympics have upstaged the capital.

The Baroque production, underwritten by the national telephone company, is the largest event of Madrid's year as the European Community's designated cultural capital.

The festival's centerpiece is a morality play known as an "auto sacramental." Although these plays have been performed this century, experts say the festival marks the first time since the ban of 1765 that the morality play will be shown in its full cost, accompanied by several comic short plays and a grandiose street procession.

The whole affair used to coincide with the Roman Catholic spring observance of Corpus Christi, but was deemed excessively popular by authorities.

"What hasn't been done [since the ban] is the complete formula," said Miguel Narros, director of the production. It will begin Monday and run until July 13, with the exception of Wednesday, when the Olympic torch is literally run through central Madrid en route to Barcelona.

The program will start at 8 P.M. with a procession from the unfinished Almudena cathedral next to the Royal Palace. Oxen will pull three large carts, representing good, evil and the world. Actors will draw another cart topped by a wild-eyed 5-meter-tall (16-foot) carnival dragon, while mules will haul comets amid the dancers and musicians.

The 90-minute parade will turn up the Calle Mayor and continue to the Plaza Mayor, where a stage and seating in tiers for 1,800 have been erected. (Theater tickets for 1,500 pesetas, about \$15, are available at Caja de Catalunya savings bank offices and Plaza Mayor box offices.)

The stage show is in classical Spanish, beginning with a 15-minute prologue to help the public understand what is to follow. Next comes a 15-minute humorous short and then the more serious auto sacramental, lasting about 75 minutes.

The 17th-century playwright Pedro Calderón de la Barca's "El gran mercado del mundo" (Great Marketplace of the World) has been chosen. Calderón described the auto sacramental as a religious sermon put to verse in a form that could be staged.

He wrote at least 80 of these morality plays, typically on commission for the church. His best-known work in the genre, "Great Theater of the World," is performed regularly in Germany and Austria.

"El gran mercado" is less theological than some of Calderón's morality plays but is relevant for the modern stage because it addresses "the problem that everything is



Costumed for the Baroque.

The Corpus Christi festival gained increasing splendor in Spain during the Middle Ages, Narros explains. But as actors and comics began to displace clergy participating in the festivities, there were excesses.

"It seems that there was a mixing of elements of magic, and too much showiness and props," said Diez. "The church didn't think it was still part of the religious devotion and political powers also did not have much interest in it."

ONE challenge in mounting the festival has been to give the actors a sense of the recitative style that prevailed when "El gran mercado" debuted, probably between 1635 and 1645. At that time, the Baroque festival would start after the morning Mass and continue throughout the day. The principal dramatic and comic performances were scattered around town, as the processions stopped in front of churches and civic buildings.

By contrast, the revived festival will be held only during the evening and all the performances will be on a single stage. After the auto sacramental, the show concludes with a 20-minute humorous epilogue.

Narros does not expect the festival to become an annual event.

"I think this is perhaps a display of prestige," he explained. "I don't know what is going to happen in 1993 because in 1992 a lot of money has been spent."

Al Goodman reports from Spain for National Public Radio.

Visiting Florence? Watch Out for Art Skirmishes and Angry Mothers

By Ken Shulman

FLORENCE — Since 1981, Michelangelo Pistoletto's marble statue "Dietrofronte" (About Face) has stood in the middle of the busy traffic circle at the Porta Romana city gate. A large female figure with an incomplete figure balanced precariously on her head, the statue has never been popular with the inhabitants of Porta Romana, who, like most Florentines, at best tolerate contemporary art.

And it may only be a coincidence that about a month ago a car skidded into the statue, causing enough damage that the work had to be removed for substantial reconstruction by its maker. Recently, amid protests from the citizens committee for aesthet-

ies suggesting that Pistoletto take his creation back home, the contested statue has returned to the traffic circle.

"Dietrofronte" was intended as a metaphor for the perspective through which Florence views the world, and how in turn it is viewed. Judging from the tennis-shoe speckled streets and the caravans of buses parked just outside the city, Florence's pull as a universal tourist magnet is still strong. From inside the city's medieval walls, the Florentine mentality appears little changed since the time of the Guelphs and Ghibellines. The stakes may be smaller, but Florentines have yet to lose their penchant for protest, plots and civil war.

Take the Boboli Gardens. In 1990, 30 years after the city of Florence zoned the gardens behind the Palazzo Pitti as public

green space, the Italian Ministry of Culture declared that the former private gardens of Cosimo I and his wife Eleonora of Toledo were actually an open-air museum, and ordered that visitors pay an admission fee.

Two years after the ministry decree — and after repeated reminders from various state organs — the architectural superintendent, Domenico Valentini, announced that as of June 2, Florence's best (and only) breath of fresh air would cost 5,000 lire (\$4). Yes, he had discussed the possibility of a 10,000 lire annual membership fee for Florentines. And yes, the Rome authorities had agreed. Unfortunately, the paperwork wasn't ready.

All was calm on the morning of the fateful day. A few tourists bought tickets to the gardens. But in the afternoon a group of nearly 3,000 irate mothers, many with the

children they usually brought to Boboli on every moderately temperate afternoon, pressed up against the Palazzo Pitti gate and demanded admittance. The situation grew tense, and the mothers increasingly insistent. Finally, Florence's mayor, Giorgio Morales, arrived and suggested that the mothers be let in "as a gesture of goodwill."

Although Valentini classified the incident as one of "incredible vulgarity," the mothers were back on the barricades the next day, and the next. By June 6, the ticket-sellers and custodians were told to close up shop the minute the menacing "Mamme di Boboli" appeared.

In the meantime, Valentini tried to placate the protesters by offering a blocked-off area of the Prato delle Colonne (Lawn of Columns) near Porta Romana. On June 9,

Florentine residents entered free at the Porta Romana entrance. But the Boboli mothers soon found the blocked-off area too tight, so they overturned the wooden barrier and took possession of the entire premises.

At the same time, the "committee for the restitution of Piazza Signoria" was arguing about the color of its true love's heart. Originally paved in red terra-cotta brick in 1386, the piazza was redone in grey pietra serena in 1793, by order of the Hapsburg Grand Duke Ferdinando III.

In the 1980s, about 20 years after the piazza was damaged by the 1966 flood, the pietra serena pavement underwent a thorough restoration. Officials promised that the new surface would be a reassembly of the existing stones, which were to be numbered, removed, revived and put back into place.

They weren't, and two years ago Florence woke up with a smooth, flat, spanking-new grey patio, level enough to shoot pool on. No one seemed to know how this had happened, nor how a good number of the original paving stones ended up as souvenirs in private villas and gardens.

THE committee continues to proclaim that "the heart of Florence is red, not grey." Last week, a survey conducted by the Florentine daily La Nazione showed that four out of seven citizens preferred Renaissance red to Grand-ducat grey. And while those responsible for the protests and surveys, they have a tougher time laughing about a February court ruling in Rome that found several of them guilty of "damaging the optional archaeological and artistic patrimony," a crime that carries a two-month suspended prison term.

Antonio Paolucci, Florence's fine arts superintendent, says that a return to terra-cotta is both impractical and unthinkable. But as a concession, a group of stonecutters has been assigned to chisel a bit of age into the overly smooth piazza surface, in essence to make it look like it did before the restoration began.

Ken Shulman is an American writer based in Italy.

LEICA M6. A MASTERPIECE OF ART



Le Zèbre
Directed by Jean Poirot.
France.
Hippolyte (Thierry Lhermitte) and Camille (Caroline Cellier) are happily married lovers, or as happy as married lovers can be, living in the French provinces with two pubescent children. Wary of mid-life stagnation, determined to revive that old black magic, Hippolyte tries a battery of erotic recipes and potions, plans orgies that sink like over-done soufflés, sends Camille anonymous assignation notes, and becomes her phantom lover. Jean Poirot, who wrote and acted in "La Cage aux Folles," wrote and directed this script from Alexandre Jardin's best-seller. It starts as burlesque comedy and veers off that path to something surprising, a sort of "Ghost" in reverse gear. Poirot's first film as a director bears his personal touch to the finish; he died shortly after. His wife, Caroline Cellier, makes a wonderfully puzzled Camille, compliant and exas-

perated, ripe and bruised. Lhermitte plays the bectle husband with blue-eyed melancholy — his handsome face has become sharper, his speedy delivery more crazed — he is on his way to becoming a Danny Kaye, or a Jean Poirot.
(Joan Dupont, IHT)

Unlawful Entry
Directed by Jonathan Kaplan.
U.S.
After Michael and Karen Carr (Kurt Russell and Madeleine Stowe) are frightened in their home by a menacing burglar, they are grateful to the police officer who comes to their rescue. Too grateful. Pete Davis (Ray Liotta) is warmly accepted by both Michael, who is impressed with his skill and daring, and Karen, who is impressed for more basic reasons. Michael and Karen can be described as comfortable, economically and otherwise. But Pete appears deeply uneasy. Merely being in the presence of this successful entrepreneur

and his glamorous wife makes him fidget, but he is disarmed by their eagerness. The evening culminates in Pete's accidentally catching Michael's burglar and offering Michael the opportunity to beat the man senseless, which Michael refuses. "I already know what I would do," Pete snaps to Michael. "I just wondered about a civilized guy like you." The film culminates in a showdown proving that the veneer of civilization is paper-thin. Kaplan's intelligence and economy are gratifyingly apparent but his approach remains level-headed and decent long after the material has gone berserk.
(Janet Maslin, NYT)

Blast 'em
Directed by Joseph Blasiotti.
U.S.
The term paparazzo, meaning a freelance photographer who specializes in candid photographs of celebrities, was apparently coined by Federico Fellini, who gave that name to

such a photographer in "La Dolce Vita." Whatever its origin, paparazzo and its plural, paparazzi, are now as much a part of the American language as the indefatigable practitioners of the trade are of our daily lives. "Blast 'em," a feature-length documentary, not only examines the phenomenon but also becomes an extension of it. It's not a pretty picture, though not simply because it tells more about the trade than most of us ever wanted to know. By the end, "Blast 'em" has somehow managed to turn the tables on the audience. The film isn't sending up just the photographers and their desperate self-interest. It's also ridiculing those of us who have never been able to thumb through any picture magazine in less than four minutes. Although "Blast 'em" is sometimes vicious and funny, it finally becomes a very depressing portrait of our civilization. As Peggy Lee puts it, "Is that all there is?"
(Vincent Canby, NYT)



Caroline Cellier and Thierry Lhermitte, the happily married lovers in "Le Zèbre."

HEAR THIS

Now here's a lady who would make a great first-grade teacher. Texas District Judge Joe Kegans had become increasingly upset by lawyers' beepers going off in court, the Associated Press tells us. The other day, she got mad as hell and wouldn't take it anymore. The 21 lawyers in the court would own up to it. So she made each of them recite his name and then, "It wasn't my beeper, and I don't know whose it was." Then she retired to her chambers for three hours and left them all waiting. What does this say about lawyers? Nothing we didn't already know.

هكذا من الأهل

LEISURE

Shopping: Home Ready-to-Wear

By Patricia McColl

PARIS — The mixes are serendipitous: a Rafat Ozbek jacket hanging next to a piece of modern art furniture; a row of Fornasetti-decorated plates lined up in a row of Katherine Hamnett dresses; linen sheets and pillowcases nestled next to a showcase for shoes.

It's all part of a trend as boutiques that previously showed only ready-to-wear branch out into objects for the home, and it's happening in Paris, Milan and London, where Joseph Ettedgui is considered the trend's pioneer.

"I was sitting on an André Putman designed chair watching the Azulejos Alala fashion show, and somehow my mind made a connection between the design of the chair and the way the clothes looked," he said. The result was Joseph Pour la Maison on Sloane Street, which opened in 1985, the high-tech glass and steel design of the shop reflected in the choice of objects and small pieces of furniture on sale. The clothes? Alala and Ettedgui's own label knits.

"It was my dream," said Ettedgui. "The store that would blend furniture, clothes, food — there's a restaurant on the lower level — but it turned out to be my trial instead." Today, Pour la Maison is such no longer exists. The restaurant remains one of the trendiest in London, and the shop sells only clothes.

But Ettedgui has found another solution. Four times a year, in his flagship Brompton Cross boutique, he sponsors exhibitions by avant-garde furniture designers. A recent one featured the furniture of Mark Brazier-Jones, weirdly elegant mixes of metals and fabric poised like giant insects throughout the shop. Floating above and around the furniture was Rafat Ozbek's best-selling bone-trimmed jacket, a hot fashion item that cost almost twice as much as a small Brazier-Jones table.

"It works better visually than commercially," Ettedgui said. "But it does help to sell clothes. In today's retail climate, I think you have to surprise your customer."

In Milan, Carla Sossani set out to create what she calls a souk in her shop at 10 Corso Como. The huge space, originally a Renault garage, overflows with pottery from Morocco, 1940s Fiesta ware from the United States, books, antique and contemporary jewelry, plus menswear by Paul Smith and women's ready-to-wear from Prada, Vivienne Westwood and the shop's own "No Name" label.

Upstairs, there's a small art gallery where one of the recent exhibitions was on African tribal art.

"I worked so many years as a fashion magazine editor that when I started this shop, I thought of it as pages in a magazine. You turn the page and there is something else," said Sossani. "The difference is that now I have to worry about how much things cost."

When the boutique opened last September, she had planned a mix of 50 percent clothes and 50 percent objects, but because of the nature of the boutique, the balance

can shift from week to week. "More and more men and women are interested in not just clothes, especially as clothes are so expensive now. Values are changing and you can feel it here when a customer hesitates between a new shirt and a set of hand-painted drinking glasses, and buys the glasses."

In Paris, the Ventilo brothers got into the business of selling things for the home by accident. When they opened their boutique on Rue du Louvre in the 1st arrondissement four years ago, they found the huge central staircase that connects the store's three levels intimidating, so they draped the railings with kilim rugs to add a little warmth. Customers wanted the rugs and the painted armoires used to display clothes.

Cushions and the period American patchwork quilts, again intended as display props, were also snatched up by customers. Gradually, the menswear area on the top floor next to the tearoom was invaded by objects and about a year ago, became a boutique for the home. The Ventilo mix includes colorful pottery from Alsace, galvanized metal objects and rush-seated child-sized chairs from Greece, American quilts and oversized pillows, and comforters in cheerful blue and white checks.

Jackie Ventilo describes the shop's look as "half Shaker, half Swedish Gustavian. It's a lifestyle concept but on a small scale; certainly not on the scale of a Ralph Lauren where his name is on everything and, as well, licensed over a whole range of products. For the moment, we want to stay small and artisanal."

Not too small, though, as Ventilo's home boutique will double in size by September. Just a few doors down, another Ventilo venture, Au Vieux Continent, successfully mixes the best in basic jeans with a huge selection of china imported from the United States, most of it bearing the crests of well-known American universities and restaurants.

In the Marais, on the Rue des Rosiers (4th arrondissement), in a derelict building that had once been a soup kitchen, Armand Hadida found just the space he was looking for to "sell something other than clothes."

Hadida opened his first L'Eclairneur boutique in a tiny space at 44 Avenue des

Champs-Élysées, 8th arrondissement, selling only Maritné and François Girbaud's avant-garde sportswear collection. That was in 1979. Two L'Eclairneur boutiques have been added in the Champs-Élysées area, still selling Girbaud but expanding to include other avant-garde names such as the Belgian designer Ann Demeulemeester, Franco Moschino and Dolce y Gabbana.

"But I wanted to sell interior design, too," Hadida said. On his buying trips to Milan, he discovered the tiny Fornasetti boutique on Via Brera and decided he wanted to launch it in Paris. The Fornasetti were not interested but Hadida insisted and opened his fourth L'Eclairneur with a Fornasetti exhibition in 1990.

THERE are the familiar trompe l'oeil black and white plates plus the painted furniture, some of it one of a kind. A tiny painted chair costs 10,000 francs (about \$1,800). The plates turn up all over the boutique, topping that display of dresses by Katherine Hamnett or in glass-fronted cases sharing shelves with jewelry pieces created by Urban Czecharon.

The shop also has the biggest selection of clothes from the ultimate anti-fashion fashion designer, Martin Margiela.

Like Ettedgui, Hadida uses the boutique as a gallery, sponsoring exhibitions two or three times a year. The current one is on glass furniture.

While most of the shops described don't put their own label on the objects they sell, everything in Inès de la Fressange's Avenue Montaigne boutique in the 8th arrondissement has her name on it. "I wanted everything in the shop to be my favorite things, whether it's the pure linen bedspreads and pillowcases or a blazer or a pair of shoes."

When the shop opened in October, there was some glassware and those linen sheets. As of June, there are hand-painted plates, a pretty desk lamp, frames, mirrors, Limoges boxes, everything designed by de la Fressange. The designs on the plates are copied from abstract watercolors she has done.

Patricia McColl is a free-lance writer based in Paris.

THE ARTS GUIDE



A Matisse in the Kunstmuseum, Basel; a painting by Theodore Robinson in the Musée Américain, Giverny.

AUSTRALIA

Sydney
Powarhouse Museum (tel: 217.0111). To July 20: "The Lie of the Land." A look at how images of Australian landscapes are portrayed in advertising through various media.

AUSTRIA

Innsbruck
Ambras Castle (tel: 592.4407). To Sept. 20: "Spanish and Austrian Art Around 1492." Includes art objects commissioned by Isabella, Ferdinand, members of the Spanish Court, and by Emperor Maximilian I.

BELGIUM

Ghent
Museum voor Sierkunst (tel: 25.66.76). To July 27: Exhibition focusing on Europe's highly innovative precious metalware from 1880 to 1940.

BRITAIN

London
British Museum (tel: 323.8525). To Sept. 6: "Mexican Painted Books Before and After the Spanish Conquest." Some of the finest ancient Mexican painted books and manuscripts.

CANADA

Montreal
Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal (tel: 873.2878). To Oct. 11: "Pour le Suite du Monde." An international show, in which one-third of the artwork is created by Canadians, inaugurates the contemporary art museum.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prague
Sternberský Palác (tel: 35.24.413). To July 19: Treasures of the Litoměřice Diocese of Northern Bohemia.

FRANCE

Giverny
Musée Américain (tel: 32.51.84.65). To Nov. 1: "Lasting Impressions: American Painters in France 1865-1915." Ninety paintings by 40 American painters.

GERMANY

Berlin
Kunstaquarium (tel: 48.04.38.86). To July 20: "The Vikings." Original artwork and objects, including church portals, tapestries and illuminated manuscripts.

IRELAND

Dublin
Irish Museum of Modern Art (tel: 718.666). To July 5: "Giacomotti: The Artist's Studio." Works as well as photographs and documents of the artist's studio.

ISRAEL

Jerusalem
The Israel Museum (tel: 708.811). To Sept. 8: Philip Ranzler's wooden shack filled with odd moving objects and gadgets parodying the modern domestic scene. Also, to Oct. 30: "Books from Sefarad." A display of rare Hebrew manuscripts along with

some of the remaining artifacts from Spanish Jewry.

ITALY

Florence
Palazzo Medici-Riccardi (tel: 55.27.60). To Aug. 30: "Le Temps Reviens: Festivals and Spectacles in the Time of Lorenzo." The contributions of the Medici to the world of entertainment.

JAPAN

Tokyo
Banka Gakuen Costume Museum (tel: 31.99.23.87). To Sept. 18: "Colors in Costumes." Red, white and black costumes from around the world.

LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg
Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art (tel: 47.93.30). To July 17: "Zao Wou-ki, Travaux Sur Papier." Paris-based artist's work, whose Western influences have reinvigorated the art of calligraphy.

MONACO

Monte-Carlo
Merise del Re Gallery (tel: 93.25.65.99). To Sept. 30: "Fernando Botero." The Colombian artist's monumental sculptures.

NETHERLANDS

Groningen
Groninger Museum (tel: 18.33.43). To Sept. 20: Exhibition of vases, carpets and watches by artists, designers and architects.

POLAND

Warsaw
National Museum (tel: 21.10.31). To Aug. 9: "Polish Painting in the Collection of Ewa and Wojtek Fibak." Works by Polish artists of the Ecole de Paris.

SPAIN

Barcelona
Museo Picasso (tel: 315.47.81). To Sept. 20: Two hundred and sixty graphic works by Max Ernst.

SWEDEN

Stockholm
National Museum (tel: 666.42.50). To Oct. 4: "Louis Jean Desprez." Topographical views, stage decorations and architecture by the French stage designer and architect, a favorite of Gustav III at the end of the 18th century.

SWITZERLAND

Basel
Kunstmuseum (tel: 271.08.28). To Sept. 29: "Transform: Picture Objects in Sculpture in the 20th Century." Joint exhibition with the Basel Kunsthalle depicting the evolution of art in the 20th century.

Lausanne
Fondation de l'Harmilaga (tel: 20.50.01-02). To Sept. 21: "The Imaginary World of Odilon Redon." Over two hundred drawings, pastels, oils and lithographs by the contemporary painter of Claude Monet.

UNITED STATES

Houston
The Museum of Fine Arts (tel: 528.1361). To Aug. 9: Contemporary Mexican photography. Also, to Aug. 23: "Recent Acquisitions: Prints and Drawings." Prints and drawings from the postwar era through Postmodernism. Also, to Sept. 5: "Leonardo da Vinci: The Anatomy of Man." Forty-one works that cover three periods of his anatomical investigations.

New York
Lincoln Center (tel: 721.6500). "Mozart." Twenty-sixth annual festival featuring singer Barbara Hendricks and violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter. July 7 to Aug. 22.

DO'S AND DON'TS

For Luncheon Dates
Do reserve for lunch at another of Ettedgui's restaurants, Joe's Café, across the street from the Brompton Cross boutique (tel: 071.223.2317); or in Paris at the Ventilo salon de thé (tel: 42.33.18.67).

Mix Unlikely Elements
Don't follow the rules. Like the store owners, mix unlikely elements.

Mailing Lists
Do get on the mailing list for the special exhibitions at Joseph's, London; L'Eclairneur in Paris; 10 Corso Como in Milan.

Credit Cards
Don't leave your credit cards at home. There are a few inexpensive surprises but for the most part, eclecticism costs money.

LATIN AMERICA

THE NEW ECONOMIC CLIMATE

Madrid, July 21-22, 1992

A major conference co-sponsored by the International Herald Tribune, Inter-American Development Bank and Argentaria-Corporación Bancaria de España

<p>JULY 21</p> <p>09.30 CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Luis W. Huesar, Publisher, International Herald Tribune Francisco Luzón, Chairman, ARGENTARIA - Corporación Bancaria de España</p> <p>06.45 KEYNOTE ADDRESS Carlos Solchaga, Minister of Finance and the Economy, Spain</p> <p>10.15 LATIN AMERICA: THE SEA CHANGE IN ECONOMIC THINKING AND PLANNING Enrique V Iglesias, President, Inter-American Development Bank</p> <p>10.45 HOW THE NEW IDEAS ARE PROMOTING A MORE STABLE FORM OF GROWTH Samuel Doris, Minister of Planning, Bolivia Alejandro Fostey, Minister of Finance, Chile Angel Garriga, Undersecretary for International Financial Affairs, Mexico</p> <p>12.15 Coffee</p> <p>12.45 INVESTMENT IN LATIN AMERICA: BETTER OFF AND BACK IN FASHION Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, Chairman, Nueva Management Inc Francisco Luzón, Chairman, ARGENTARIA - Corporación Bancaria de España Gauthier Muller, General Manager, Inter-American Investment Corporation</p> <p>14.15 Lunch Guest speaker: Domingo Cavallo, Minister of Economic Affairs, Argentina</p> <p>16.00 COMBINING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT Herman Bravio, Minister of Natural Resources, Energy and Mines, Costa Rica Stephan Schmidheiny, Chairman, Anova AG, Switzerland, and Chairman, Business Council for Sustainable Development</p> <p>17.00 ROUND TABLE: LATIN AMERICA'S PRIVATIZATION PROGRAMS Eduardo Mediano, President, National Development Bank of Brazil Miguel Aguiló, President, Ibera Gerrit Tammes, Vice Chairman, NMB Postbank Groep NV</p> <p>18.30 Cocktail Reception - Hosted by ARGENTARIA</p>	<p>JULY 22</p> <p>09.30 WHY FOREIGN COMPANIES ARE LOOKING AGAIN AT LATIN AMERICA Moderator: Robert Panero, Robert Panero & Associates Ambassador Christian d'Aumale, Advisor to the Chairman, Lyonnaises des Eaux David de Pury, Chairman, Ases Brown Boveri Ltd Cándido Velásquez, Chairman, Telefónica de España</p> <p>10.45 LATIN AMERICAN INTEGRATION: A RENEWED CATALYST FOR COOPERATION Central America's Peace Dividends: Erwin Kruger, Minister for External Cooperations, Nicaragua The Andean Pact Revival: Enrique Garcia, President, Andean Development Corporation, Bolivia The Mercosur: Felix Peña, Director of Integration, Argentina</p> <p>12.00 Coffee</p> <p>12.20 ADJUSTMENT MEASURES: GETTING THE SOCIAL BALANCE RIGHT Carlos Ominami, Minister of Economy, Chile Prof. Louis Enserri, President, OECD Development Centre</p> <p>13.15 LATIN AMERICA STOCK MARKETS: THE EMERGENT STARS Alvaro Vidigal, Chairman, Sao Paulo Stock Exchange Audrey Twiston Davies, Managing Director, Latin American Securities Limited</p> <p>14.15 CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE Enrique V Iglesias, President, Inter-American Development Bank</p> <p>14.30 Lunch Special Address: H E Luis Alberto Lacalle, President of Uruguay</p> <p>16.30 Close of conference</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* Subject to confirmation</p> <p>In order to provide delegates with an up-to-the-minute outlook for the region the final program will incorporate a number of additional speakers.</p>
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REGISTRATION INFORMATION: The fee for the conference is \$295.00. This includes lunches, the cocktail reception and all conference documentation. Fees must be received in advance and will be refunded less a \$30.00 cancellation charge for any cancellation received in writing on or before July 9, after which time we regret there can be no refund. Substitutions can be made at any time.

REGISTRATION FORM: To register for the conference, please complete the form below and send it to: Jane Blackmore, International Herald Tribune, 65 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JH, England. Tel: (44 71) 836 4802. Fax: (44 71) 836 0717. 3-7-92

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WALL STREET WATCH

The Deal is Equitable, Certainly, but Is It Fair?

By Peter Kerr
New York Times Service

NEW YORK—Equitable Life Assurance Society, the fourth-largest mutual life insurer in the United States, is approaching a crucial moment in its 133-year history: For the first time, it is about to ask investors to buy stock in one of the most august names and one of the most troublesome real estate portfolios in the life-insurance industry.

In the largest conversion ever of a mutual insurer into a company owned by its policyholders—into a company owned by stockholders, Equitable hopes to raise more than \$500 million, one of the largest initial public offerings this year. The company hopes to sell the stock at between \$11 and \$14 a share.

Under conditions of an agreement with Equitable's backers, Groupe AXA SA, France's third-largest insurance company, the offering must raise at least \$300 million—about \$6 a share—or the deal must be restructured. Last year, AXA invested \$1 billion in exchange for a controlling interest that will probably equal 49 percent of the shares issued in the offering.

But Equitable faces a tough sell as it meets with small groups of institutional investors this week and next, for it is still burdened by the junk bonds and commercial real estate it bought in the 1980s.

"How the deal goes will have major implications, not just for a company that manages \$146 billion in assets for more than 2 million customers, but for an industry that has been buffeted by bad news and sagging consumer confidence for more than 18 months.

"This deal serves as a litmus test for the degree to which concerns about credit quality have eased," said Orr Kramer, an insurance industry consultant. "Over the past 18 months, a number of financial institutions, mostly banks, that were perceived to be near the brink now have a lot of new capital. If this deal succeeds, it means we are seeing the same thing for insurance."

"If the plan succeeds, it could blaze a path for other mutual insurers that are searching for new capital. If the so-called demutualization fails, or goes poorly, it could once again raise questions about the stability of the life-insurance industry and encourage critics in Congress who are calling for federal regulation of insurance.

IN A SCATHING review of the Equitable offering, James Grant, author of a respected Wall Street newsletter, Grant's Interest Rate Observer, noted that \$8.5 billion, or about 11 percent, of the life insurer's portfolio represented "risky assets."

Those holdings include the real estate that the company characterizes as "problem, restructured, potential problem and distressed commercial mortgages," as well as foreclosed equity real estate. Those are weighty risks, Mr. Grant argues, for a company whose proposed capitalization would be \$2.5 billion.

The company is prevented by Securities and Exchange Commission regulations from discussing the deal. But in its prospectus, Equitable points to several strengths, including its investment businesses, which include the investment-banking firm of Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette and Alliance Capital Management.

Their income from managing assets grew to \$375.2 million in 1991, from \$123 million in 1985. Equitable, which holds a 55 percent interest in Alliance, carries the company at a modest \$78.4 million, leaving more than \$400 million off the books under generally accepted accounting principles. And despite bad investments by its insurance operation, Equitable's insurance sales force has continued to sell policies and annuities.

Still, most analysts say it is far from clear whether Equitable

In light of its bad real estate portfolio, the insurer's initial public offering looks dodgy to some.

See INSURE, Page 13

Overhaul In Russia Gains on 2 Fronts

Tax Cut Rejected And Bonn Hints Of Debt Grace

By Tom Redburn
International Herald Tribune

PARIS—By the time the leaders of the seven major industrial countries complete their summit meeting next week in Munich, they will be hoping that the three-day extravaganza does not end up, as Yogi Berra once put it, looking like déjà vu all over again.

On issues ranging from Russian aid, which will be discussed in a long session with President Boris N. Yeltsin, to the long-stalled global trade talks, there is a real risk that the Group of Seven annual economic summit meeting, which opens Monday, will cover all-too-familiar ground.

"There is a good chance, I'm afraid, that this summit will be as disappointing as the last two," said Michael Aho, who heads economic studies at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York. "Ever since the Berlin Wall fell, the leaders have found it harder and harder to work together on the key issues on the global agenda."

The biggest event of last July's meeting in London was the first meeting between the Western world's "board of directors" and the leader of what was once the sworn enemy of capitalism.

But when Mikhail S. Gorbachev made his splashy debut at the annual affair, the former president of the former Soviet Union went home mostly empty-handed. Despite the face-saving gloss put on the matter by Western leaders, Mr. Gorbachev was visibly upset that his plea for a big cash injection for the sick Soviet economy had been so clearly rebuffed. Western leaders held back largely because the Soviet leader seemed incapable of pushing through a serious economic reform program.

Only a month later, traditionalist forces within the government launched their coup attempt against Mr. Gorbachev's rule, which had been further weakened by his summit failure. That set in motion the train of events that led to the final breakup of the Soviet Union.

The second visit to the G-7 summit from across the old Cold War divide should, at least on the surface, be substantially different.

Moscow has now joined the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, making Russia eligible for hefty multilateral loans in support of economic reconstruction. A \$24 billion aid package for Russia has already been announced by President George Bush of the United States and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany. A new \$800 million package will be unwrapped in Munich aimed at helping repair some of the

G-7 Outlook: Echoes of Summits Past

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A New Russia, Forged in Steel?

The steelworkers do not yet grasp what is happening to them. They still believe that they are the pillars of the country.

By Louis Uchitelle
New York Times Service

MAGNITOGORSK, Russia—The 64,000 steelworkers at the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Complex, the world's largest steelworks, are getting nervous. The company is 90 days behind in paying wages and is offering instead 50-pound sacks of sugar and pieces of steel that the workers can try to resell.

As production falls, 5,000 of the workers do not have a full day's work and some have been sent home on forced vacations.

"The steelworkers do not yet grasp what is happening to them," said Valery Kucher, former editor in chief of the Magnitogorsk Worker, the city's daily newspaper. "They still believe that they are the pillars of the country."

Like dinosaur steelworks in the United States that were forced to close a decade ago, the Magnitogorsk plant is threatened with bankruptcy and extinction. But it is so far managing to squeeze out enough profit to stay alive.

It survives because some major costs are subsidized by the government and earnings are used not to enrich investors, but to build workers' apartments and rest homes, to subsidize the city's trolley-car system and construct new rolling mills deemed essential for modernization and survival.

The steelworkers are one of many giant state enterprises in company towns across Russia that have emerged as a powerful political force because they keep workers housed and fed.

But their stout runs counter to the pressure from industrial nations on President Boris N. Yeltsin to move quickly toward a market economy, even if this leads to layoffs and labor unrest.

The state enterprises are a key to the balance of act as Mr. Yeltsin seeks billions of dollars in foreign aid while yielding on occasion to domestic pressures.

"If we close the plant, there are 60 other jobs," said Anatoli Starikov, the 51-year-old general manager of the steelworks. "People would have to look for work elsewhere, and in Russia that is unrealistic. If we halt part of the production, then half the city will be hurt. That is also inadmissible."

Once a proud symbol of the forced industrialization in the 1930s that made the Soviet

Hafnia Halts A Crucial Stock Issue

COPENHAGEN

By Peter Kerr
New York Times Service

COPENHAGEN—The troubled Danish insurer Hafnia Holding A/S said Thursday that, as a result of an irregular deal with a leading soccer team, it had to postpone a stock offering it sorely needs to shore up its battered capital base.

Hafnia said it was in discussions with the underwriters—Den Danske Bank, Paribas Ltd., Bjornskov & Co. and Sparekassen Birkens—about the 2 billion kroner (334 million) issue that was to have started Thursday, but had not reached agreement with them.

Hafnia's shares were suspended Wednesday on the Copenhagen and London stock exchanges after the company said its board had just learned of irregular transactions conducted by its dismissed deputy general manager, Jesper Hansen.

Hafnia said it faced demands to exercise two options to buy 73 percent of the stock of a small Danish bank, Interbank A/S, for 288 million kroner from its owner, the professional soccer club Brøndby IF. That is 35 million to 45 million kroner higher than the intrinsic value of the bank stake, Hafnia said.

Brøndby had deposited the bank stock as security against a loan of 250 million kroner from two banks, Carnegie Kreditinstitut A/S of Sweden and ABN Amro, that should have been repaid by June 30. The banks are now demanding the options be exercised.

The 2 billion kroner rights issue was intended to stabilize the group after major equity capital losses after an aborted attempt by Hafnia and Norway's UNI Storebrand A/S to gain control of the Swedish insurer Forsikrings AB Skandia and falling share prices in the insurance sector.

See SUMMIT, Page 13

CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates	July 2
Australian \$	1.2825
British pound	1.6325
Canadian \$	1.0125
DM	1.4825
French franc	166.25
Italian lira	2036.25
Japanese yen	160.25
Swiss franc	1.4825
West German mark	1.4825
Yen	160.25

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per \$	Per 100	Per 1000
Australian \$	1.2825	128.25	1282.5
British pound	1.6325	163.25	1632.5
Canadian \$	1.0125	101.25	1012.5
DM	1.4825	148.25	1482.5
French franc	166.25	16625	166250
Italian lira	2036.25	203625	2036250
Japanese yen	160.25	16025	160250
Swiss franc	1.4825	148.25	1482.5
West German mark	1.4825	148.25	1482.5
Yen	160.25	16025	160250

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day
Australian \$	1.2825	1.2825	1.2825	1.2825
British pound	1.6325	1.6325	1.6325	1.6325
Canadian \$	1.0125	1.0125	1.0125	1.0125
DM	1.4825	1.4825	1.4825	1.4825
French franc	166.25	166.25	166.25	166.25
Italian lira	2036.25	2036.25	2036.25	2036.25
Japanese yen	160.25	160.25	160.25	160.25
Swiss franc	1.4825	1.4825	1.4825	1.4825
West German mark	1.4825	1.4825	1.4825	1.4825
Yen	160.25	160.25	160.25	160.25

Interest Rates

Currency	3-month	6-month	9-month	1-year
Australia	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Canada	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
France	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Germany	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Italy	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Japan	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
UK	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
USA	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%

Banks Led Wall Street Last Quarter

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK—You can bank on it. In fact, if that was your investment strategy in 1992, you have probably done quite well. Otherwise, it hasn't been much of a year so far.

In the second quarter, a period that saw more stocks go down than up in price while Wall Street kept looking for signs of economic recovery, the bank stocks started.

The Nasdaq bank index, a collection of mostly regional banks, zipped up 11.8 percent in the quarter, and has risen 26.3 percent this year. Of the 18 best-performing stocks on Nasdaq in the second quarter, 16 of them, including all of the top 7, are banks.

Big banks also moved up. Bank of Boston gained 36 percent in the quarter, while Citicorp added 29 percent.

The reasons for that good performance include takeovers and, in some cases, relief that a bank whose survival had seemed shaky now looks as if it will make it.

But the Federal Reserve has played the largest role. The Fed's strategy of pushing down short-term interest rates has raised profit margins and saved a lot of money for banks.

In addition, there is a belief on Wall Street that bank mergers will drive down costs and push up profits for years to come. Chemical Bank, which is digesting its acquisition of Manufacturers Hanover, rose 13.4 percent and by the end of the quarter was being hailed

Quarterly Big Board Gainers and Losers

Company	July 2	June 30	Change
IBM	117.75	117.75	+0.00%
McDonald's	15.4	15.4	+0.00%
Exxon	13.2	13.2	+0.00%

Company	July 2	June 30	Change
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DAIWA CAPITAL - L.C.F. EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD INTERNATIONAL BOND FUND

Announce de mise en paiement d'un dividende
Un dividende de U.S.\$70 par part sera mis en paiement à partir du 3 juillet 1992 contre remise du coupon n° 6 des certificats au porteur à la :
BANQUE PRIVÉE EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD S.A.
Succursale de Luxembourg
20, Boulevard Emmanuel-Servais,
L-2585 Luxembourg
La part sera cotée ex-dividende en Bourse de Luxembourg à partir du 3 juillet 1992.

SCI/TECH S.A.

Société d'investissement à capital variable
8, Avenue Marie-Thérèse
L-2132 LUXEMBOURG
Notice is hereby given to the shareholders of SCI/TECH S.A. that, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the shareholders at their Annual General Meeting held on July 26, 1992 a dividend of U.S.\$0.05 per share will be paid as of June 20, 1992 ("the Payment Date").
The record date is June 26, 1992 the ex-dividend date being June 29, 1992.
As of the Payment Date, holder of shares other than registered shareholders may present the coupon number 4 for payment at:
Citicorp Investment Bank (Luxembourg) S.A.,
16, Avenue Marie-Thérèse L-2132 Luxembourg,
or to:
Bank Meeus & Hope N.V.,
Herengracht 548, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Citicorp Investment Bank (Luxembourg) S.A. as Custodian and Paying Agent.

Le Grand

BACO JOINS LEGRAND GROUP

BACO - one of France's leading specialists in earth leakage protection and signalling and control devices - has joined the Legrand Group, further strengthening its technological and industrial base.
Legrand Group has acquired an 88% stake in BACO, a Strasbourg-based company employing a staff of 600. In 1991, BACO generated consolidated total sales of FFr 275 million, 25% from exports, for a net profit of FFr 22 million.
BACO will remain an independent entity within the Legrand Group. At the same time, it will benefit from Group support to increase its rate of growth, particularly an international markets.
Financial Information: O. Bazil, G. Schnapp
Tel.: (33) 1 43.60.01.80

\$420 Million H.K. Issue

HONG KONG—The real estate developer Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd. said Thursday that it would raise 3.295 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$422 million) after expenses through a private sale of 100 million new shares at an effective price of 33.25 dollars a share.
SHK Properties said the money would be used for business expansion in China. The company recently signed a 2 billion dollar agreement to redevelop a Beijing shopping center and has also plans for railway projects in southern China.
The share sale is the largest to be made in the Hong Kong market in recent months, dwarfing a 2 billion dollar sale of new shares by Hopewell Holdings on May 5.
The Hang Seng stock index, which ended 61.01 points lower at 6,073.74 on Thursday, declined on rumors that the share sale was imminent, traders said. SHK Properties, the market's fifth-largest company in terms of capitalization, lost 1.50 dollars to finish at 34.50.

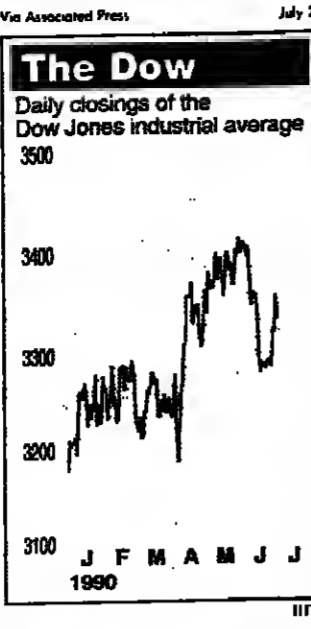
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MARKET DIARY

Economic Fears Send Stocks Lower

Bloomberg Business News NEW YORK — Stocks fell Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange on news that the U.S. unemployment rate rose to its highest level in eight years...



Dow Jones Averages table with columns for Open, High, Low, and Close for various indices like Industrials, Utilities, Finance, and SP 500.

Standard & Poor's Indexes table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change for various sectors like Industrials, Utilities, Finance, and SP 500.

NYSE Indexes table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change for Composite, Industrials, Finance, and NYSE.

NASDAQ Indexes table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change for Composite, Industrials, Finance, and NASDAQ.

AMEX Stock Index table with columns for High, Low, Close, and Change for 20 Bonds, 10 Industrials, and AMEX.

Dow Jones Bond Averages table with columns for Close and Change for 20 Bonds, 10 Industrials, and 10 Government.

Market Sales table with columns for Volume, High, Low, and Close for various market categories.

NYSE Most Active table with columns for Volume, High, Low, and Close for various stocks.

AMEX Most Active table with columns for Volume, High, Low, and Close for various stocks.

NYSE Diary table with columns for Advance, Decline, and Total Issues for various market segments.

NASDAQ Diary table with columns for Advance, Decline, and Total Issues for various market segments.

EUROPEAN FUTURES

Food futures table with columns for Close, High, Low, and Change for various food commodities.

Metals futures table with columns for Close, High, Low, and Change for various metal commodities.

Stock Indexes table with columns for Close, High, Low, and Change for various stock indices.

Spot Commodities table with columns for Today's and Previous prices for various commodities.

Dividends table with columns for Company, Per Annum, and Pay Date for various stocks.

S&P 100 Index Options table with columns for Strike, Call, Put, and Price for various options.

U.S. FUTURES table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various futures contracts.

Grains futures table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various grain commodities.

Oil futures table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various oil commodities.

Metals futures table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various metal commodities.

Livestock futures table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various livestock commodities.

Financial futures table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various financial instruments.

Stock Indexes table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various stock indices.

Commodity Indexes table with columns for Season, High, Low, and Change for various commodity indices.

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U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

U.S. Debt to Foreigners Soars 40.4%

WASHINGTON (AP) — America retained the world's biggest debtor nation in 1991, boosting its liabilities to foreigners by 40.4 percent last year, the government said Thursday.

Bristol-Myers Agrees on Settlement

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) — Bristol-Myers Squibb's infant-formula division agreed Thursday to pay wholesalers and retailers a multimillion-dollar settlement to end a class-action suit alleging antitrust violations.

Mead Will Lay Off 1,000 Workers

DAYTON, Ohio (UPI) — Mead Corp., the forest-products company, said Thursday it would lay off 1,000 people over the next two years and sell its recently acquired Ampac commercial office-products business to Bain Capital of Boston as part of a restructuring.

AT&T and Unions Agree on Contract

WASHINGTON (AP) — American Telephone & Telegraph's 125,000 workers would get wage increases of up to 1.8 percent over three years, improved job security and other benefits under a tentative agreement, reached with the help of a federal mediator, on Thursday.

For the Record

Sheikh Khalid bin Mahfouz, a Saudi Arabian banker charged with defaming depositors and investors of \$300 million in the BCCI banking scandal, said Thursday the charges were unfounded.

U.S. commercial and industrial loans decreased \$1.37 billion to \$278.8 billion in the week ended June 24, the Federal Reserve System said Thursday. The total did not include \$1.495 billion of bankers' acceptances and commercial paper.

Atari Corp. said it had withdrawn its appeal of a verdict in favor of Nintendo of America Inc. in an antitrust case filed by Atari claiming anticompetitive practices. Nintendo agreed not to proceed with attempts to recover certain legal costs from Atari.

American Re Corp. of New York, the third-largest U.S. property and casualty reinsurance company, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission to sell as much as \$350 million of senior subordinated debentures due 2004.

Fed's Interest-Rate Cuts Send Dollar Plunging

NEW YORK — The dollar plunged Thursday after June's very weak U.S. employment numbers, which showed a jump in the jobless rate to 7.8 percent from 7.5 percent, prompting the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates.

The dollar closed at 1.5075 Deutsche marks, down from 1.5237 DM on Wednesday, and at 124.40 yen, down from 125.35 yen.

But the U.S. currency stopped sliding once it reached 1.50 DM, traders said. Many investors jumped at the chance to book profits they had from selling the dollar short earlier, they said.

"People had already sold on the employment report, and when it came out, they covered rapidly," said Paul Farrell, chief dealer at Chase Manhattan.

The U.S. currency should come under more pressure next week as investors again focus on the wide differential between interest rates in the United States and Europe, traders said.

In its announcement of a half-point cut in the discount rate to 3 percent, the Fed cited, notably, weak growth in the money supply. That point was borne out as currency trading ended in New York.

DIP: Jobless Rate Surges to 7.8%

(Continued from page 1) point from my forecast for the second half of the year," he said. If he does that, then Mr. Kahan will be looking for the economy to grow at a 2 percent pace of maybe less between now and the end of the year.

Dealers also saw the Federal Reserve aggressively buying Australian dollars for U.S. dollars. The Australian dollar ended at 74.29 U.S. cents, down from 74.65 cents.

"I see the dollar under a little pressure next week," said John McCarty of ABN Amro Bank. Mr. McCarty cited the employment report "abysmal."

The Bank of Canada intervened to prop up its currency, according to dealers. The dollar ended at Canadian 1.2012 Canadian dollars, compared to 1.2023 Wednesday.

Dealers also saw the Federal Reserve aggressively buying Australian dollars for U.S. dollars. The Australian dollar ended at 74.29 U.S. cents, down from 74.65 cents.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table of world stock markets with columns for Market, Close, and Change. Includes sections for Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Madrid, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Zurich, Tokyo, and Montreal.

Paris

Table of Paris stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Sydney

Table of Sydney stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Tokyo

Table of Tokyo stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Stockholm

Table of Stockholm stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

London

Table of London stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Milan

Table of Milan stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Madrid

Table of Madrid stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Sao Paulo

Table of Sao Paulo stock market with columns for Stock, Close, and Change.

Financial

Table of financial markets with columns for Instrument, Close, and Change.

Stock Indexes

Table of stock indexes with columns for Index, Close, and Change.

Commodity Indexes

Table of commodity indexes with columns for Index, Close, and Change.

Stock Indexes

Table of stock indexes with columns for Index, Close, and Change.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring the name 'Hong Ke' and other text, partially obscured by the page edge.

Hong Kong Pay-TV Solution: No Win?

By Laurence Zuckerman International Herald Tribune
HONG KONG — The Hong Kong government unveiled Thursday a blueprint for bringing pay television to one of the world's most densely populated cities...

erment plan, saying there were still too many unanswered questions.
The new plan is the latest development in a saga that combines bitter business rivalries with charges of government incompetence.

Hong Kong's 5.7 million residents — or to charge subscriptions.
The Hong Kong government has been loath to grant STAR's wishes for fear of alienating prospective bidders for a colony-wide multichannel pay-television service...

Australia Boosts Air Ties With Malaysia, Korea

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
CANNBERRA — Air services between Australia and Asia will expand dramatically following the signing of air agreements with Malaysia and South Korea...

government-run domestic carrier Australian Airlines.
Mr. Collins said he has plans to operate three B-767 services direct to Kuala Lumpur from Sydney from November this year...

Investor's Asia
Table with columns for Hong Kong Hang Seng, Singapore Straits Times, and Tokyo Nikkei 225. Includes a line graph showing index trends from 1992 to 1991.

Very briefly:

- Seoul's composite stock index slumped to a 53-month low, losing 3.70 points to 548.28...
• Oki Electric Industry Co. agreed with Matsushita, a French semiconductor maker, to jointly develop large-scale integrated chips.

Hutchison Joins Australia Bidding

CANNBERRA — Hong Kong-based Hutchison Telecom on Thursday launched a bid for Australia's third cellular telephone license.
The company, a unit of Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., said it was discussing a possible partnership with two Australian concerns.

Japan's Builders Burdened by Loan Guarantees

TOKYO — Japan's contractors, already suffering from a downturn in orders, are facing new losses from ill-timed concessions they made to clients two years ago to increase business.
As competition for orders began heating up in 1990, Japanese contractors began luring clients with agreements to guarantee loans and buy stocks or land from them.

defunct realtor, Nanatomi, in addition to a loss of 23 billion yen in orders that Nanatomi placed but could not pay for.
• Ishihara Construction, which inherited 23 billion yen in liabilities after the steelmaker Kyowa declared bankruptcy.

the building at a package price, the Morgan Stanley report said.
Although this practice is less widespread than loan guarantees, its risks are equally high. Not only do contractors miss out on interest...

IBM and Toshiba Sign Chip Deal

TOKYO — Toshiba Corp. and IBM signed on Thursday an agreement to develop advanced solid-state storage devices using flash memory chips for small personal computers.
Under the agreement, the companies will jointly design and share technology on solid-state files to be assembled with flash chips now being developed by Toshiba.

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS
Table listing various international funds with columns for fund name, asset value, and other financial metrics. Includes sub-sections for Global Equity, Global Bond, and Specialty Funds.

SPORTS SOCCER

FIFA Picks France Over Morocco to Hold '98 World Cup

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
ZURICH — France was selected Thursday to stage the 1998 World Cup soccer finals, returning the championship to the 1938 host country and one of the game's oldest strongholds.

France beat Morocco, 12 to 7, in the secret vote by the 19-member executive committee of FIFA, the sport's world governing body, which the French helped found in 1904.

Only one ballot was needed for the decision, which ended Morocco's second bid to move the 24-nation event outside Europe and the Americas for the first time. Earlier, the committee quashed Switzerland's candidacy to avoid two competing European bids.

FIFA's president, João Havelange of Brazil, announced the tally at a news conference.

"This award is the crowning glory of three years of work," said Bernard Sastre, chief organizer of the French bid. "It's a great day for French football, a great joy."

Michel Platini, the French national team coach and one of his nation's greatest sports idols, announced his resignation after FIFA's decision and was expected to help organize the World Cup.

France has never won the World Cup, considered the world's biggest single-sports event. It is automatically qualified for the 1998 championship as host.

While France was favored, many expected the vote to be closer.

Morocco, supported by African and Asian members, got no more backing than four years ago, when it lost 10 to 7 to the United States in the vote for the 1994 World Cup.

"Africa deserved its chance and we are disappointed that the European-American monopoly has again been confirmed," said the president of the Moroccan Olympic, Rachidi Alam. "It is an injustice for Africa and the Arab countries."

But the president of the French soccer federation, Jean Fournet-Fayard, maintained that France's "dossier was very complete."

"We have also many things

which are ready — stadiums, telecommunications, transportation — and that's very important," he said.

France's victory was consolation after financial scandals in soccer and a poor showing at last month's European Championship, where the highly touted French team exited in the first round.

And Fournet-Fayard has been charged in the collapse of a temporary grandstand at a French soccer cup semifinal in May on the island of Corsica that killed 15.

Both main candidates had strong government backing and pledged stadium improvements to meet FIFA's requirements.

In its bid, France promised to link all 1998 sites with the TGV high-speed train.

Plans include a broad-oval, 80,000-seat stadium south of Paris for the opening game and final of the 52-game tournament, and two other new arenas among the 12 game sites.



Chicago's Jose Vizcaino ducking under Eddie Murphy's late tag.

For 2 A's Stars, a Most Curious Race

The Associated Press
The most curious race in the American League this season? That's easy — Mark McGwire vs. Dennis Eckersley.

The two Oakland stars again increased their major-league-leading totals Wednesday, with McGwire hitting his 27th home run and Eckersley earning his 28th save in a 3-1 victory over Seattle.

All season, McGwire and Eckersley have been on a parallel, No. 1 path. McGwire is on pace to break career highs — 49 homers for McGwire in 1987, 48 saves for Eckersley in 1990.

The A's remained tied with Minnesota for first place in the American League West, one of two good division races.

Oakland and Seattle were tied at 1-1 in the eighth when Harold Baines singled with one out. Lance Blankenship went in as a pinch runner, and McGwire hit a 427-foot shot to center field against Mark Grant.

The game was the first for the Mariners under the new, Japanese-led ownership.

The \$106-million sale by Jeff Smulyan to The Baseball Club of Seattle was completed late Tuesday

night, and some of the new Mariners owners watched the game from Smulyan's old owner's box. John Ellis, chief executive officer, and Chuck Armstrong, club president, were at the game.

Twins 2, Angels 1: Minnesota won its sixth straight game, all on the road, behind Willie Banks and four relievers. The Twins have won 13 of 15 and are 6-0 against California this season.

Bleu Jays 3, Rangers 2: Greg Myers doubled home the winning run in the 10th inning in Toronto.

Derek Bell, who made a rinning catch on Rafael Palmeiro's liner to left-center with the bases loaded to end the top of the 10th, opened the bottom half with a single. Myers followed with a double off Jeff Russell.

Orioles 7, Brewers 4: Bill Ripken went four for four with a homer and drove in three runs as Baltimore won at home. Brady Anderson and Sam Horn also homered for the Orioles.

Yankees 7, Royals 6: Pinch-hitter Matt Nokes' two-run homer in the seventh inning completed New York's rally from an early 6-0 deficit at Yankee Stadium.

Red Sox 6, Tigers 4: Tom Brunansky's double capped a five-run seventh inning that lifted Boston over Detroit at Fenway Park.

The Red Sox trailed 4-1 before Scott Cooper's RBI single off Bill Gullickson and Jody Reed's sacrifice fly made it a one-run game.

With the bases loaded, John Kieley, the fourth pitcher of the inning, came in to face Brunansky, but the move backfired as Brunansky snuck a three-run double off the left-center field wall.

White Sox 4, Indians 5: Craig Grebeck went five for five with three doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored as the White Sox won for the ninth time in 11 games.

Phillies 7, Royals 6: Pinch-hitter Matt Nokes' two-run homer in the seventh inning completed New York's rally from an early 6-0 deficit at Yankee Stadium.

Abbot worked six-plus innings against the Expos, giving up seven hits and six runs.

Dennis Martinez won for the eighth time in 10 decisions. He allowed two runs and six hits in six innings, struck out four and walked one. John Wetteland pitched 1 2/3 perfect innings for his 13th save.

Phillies' Rookie Loses 10th Straight

The Associated Press
Rookie Kyle Abbott is closing in on a Phillies record. Unfortunately, it's a record for futility.

The winless pitcher lost his 10th straight game Wednesday night when the Montreal Expos beat the Phillies, 6-3, in Philadelphia.

If Abbott loses his next two decisions, he will equal Ken Reynolds's 1972 team record for most consecutive losses at the start of a season.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Pirates 1, Cardinals 0: Zane Smith threw a five-hitter in St. Louis for his first victory since May 9. Smith struck out one and walked one in his third shutout and fourth complete game this season. He had been winless in his nine previous starts. Pittsburgh got its run in the fourth when Andy Van Slyke doubled and scored on Gary Varsho's single off Mark Clark.

Padres 6, Dodgers 2: Craig Leferts became the National League's third 10-game winner, limiting the Dodgers to two runs in 6 1/2 innings. Every San Diego starter in Los Angeles had at least one hit off Orel Hershiser, who gave up four runs and 13 hits, the most hits he has ever allowed in a game.

Giants 2, Braves 1: Bud Black held Atlanta to five hits in 7 1/2 innings in San Francisco, and got a season-high five strikeouts.

Steve Avery lost his second straight, despite allowing just five hits in seven innings. Avery gave up two first-inning runs on Will Clark's RBI double and Robby Thompson's run-scoring single.

Mets 6, Cubs 4: Howard Johnson hit a go-ahead RBI single in the 12th in Chicago and Junior Nobles added a sacrifice fly as New York stopped a three-game losing streak.

Astros 3, Reds 2: Eric Anthony hit a leadoff homer in the ninth off Scott Rankland to give the Astros a three-game sweep in Houston. Cincinnati starter Tom Browning injured his left leg in a sixth-inning collision with catcher Scott Servais, and had to be helped off the field.

Quietly, Indurain Leaves No Doubt He's Tour's Choice Cut

By Samuel Abt
International Herald Tribune
SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain — From his butcher's stall in the Calle de Erbitas Municipal market, Paco Echeverria is happy to talk *chatelets*, *bistecas* and even *hamburguesas*, but what he seems happiest to talk are *bicicletas*.

As in *ciclismo*, as in the Tour de France, the world's greatest bicycle race begins in San Sebastian on Saturday, and Paco Echeverria is prepared to recommend a few choice cuts among the riders.

"Indurain," he said, "Muy buena." Several large posters of Miguel Indurain, the Spaniard who is the defending champion in the Tour, adorned the walls behind the butcher's counter.

Echeverria jerked a banged-up thumb toward some of the other posters. "Bugno," he said, "LeMond, Breukink. Muy peligraso."

That was prime rib; Gianni Bugno, Greg LeMond and Erik Breukink should

be very dangerous indeed to Indurain's hopes in the three-week Tour.

The butcher shook his head in decision. "Indurain," he said, "Numero uno."

Even a lactoid vegetarian would find it hard to argue with that verdict. At the moment, Indurain ranks first in the computerized standings of the world's professional bicycle racers and has just recorded two impressive victories.

First, in mid-June, he finished romping through the three-week Giro d'Italia and became the first Spaniard to win that demanding race. Last Sunday he overtook a three-man breakaway and won the sprint to become Spanish national champion.

That victory was had over his rivals in the Tour, who had hoped that Indurain lost it in the Giro. "It is the untiring power that makes him a top climber and the master of the long time trial."

This 79th Tour seems to be designed for him. It includes two days of major climbs in the Alps and two long time

trials on either side of those mountains.

But the soft-spoken — sometimes so soft that he seems to be inarticulate — Indurain is not claiming victory beforehand. He is, in fact, trying to sound cautious.

"The fact that I'll start with No. 1 on my back and wearing the yellow jersey in my own country will mean a lot," he said in an interview with local organizers.

"But they'll also add to the pressure on me. It's going to be very difficult."

That was consistent with the waitress he has displayed since his Giro victory.

"In the Tour, experience has taught me that you never do anything the way you do it in another race," he told the French daily *L'Equipe* after his victory in Italy.

Asked if he could bring off the Giro-Tour double, he replied enigmatically, "It could be just as easy, if I ride the way I did in the Giro, as it could be difficult."

The double victory in the same year would put him in elite company. Only

Fausto Coppi in 1952, Jacques Anquetil in 1964, Eddy Merckx in 1970, '72 and '74, Bernard Hinault in 1982 and '85, and Stephen Roche in 1987 have managed it.

Indurain is already in elite company, however. Since the Tour de France began in 1903, Indurain is one of just four Spaniards to have won it. The others are Federico Bahamontes in 1959, Luis Ocaña in 1973 and Pedro Delgado in 1988.

Spaniards have usually excelled as climbers, a test in which Indurain has few close rivals. He climbs with a certain elegance, his cap almost always in place and his jersey zipped closed under a broiling sun that makes other riders wilt.

Despite his fears of added pressure, Indurain will have the boge advantage of a start before his fans. Unlike the people of San Sebastian, he is not a Basque but close to it: 90 kilometers (56 miles) away. He comes from the village of Villava, just outside Pamplona, in the neighboring Navarre province.

But as a Spanish journalist explained last year after Indurain's victory in the Tour: "To most Spaniards, he is a Basque. To the Basques, he is a Spaniard, except that he becomes a Basque when he wins the Tour de France."

Most members of the Banesto team from Spain, for which he rides, regard him and his strength with what appears to be awe. They also respect the ways of a farmer's son.

"Except for bicycle racing, he has no interests," said Jean-Francois Bernard, a Frenchman with Banesto. "He's so quiet you don't even hear him. When he comes down to a team meal, you don't even hear him pull his chair away from the table."

In turn, Indurain regards his teammates and coaches as family and has ridden for the same team under different sponsors since he turned professional in 1985.

He has no interest, he often says, in going elsewhere just for money, and nobody doubts his sincerity.

BOOKS

LIFE AFTER TELEVISION
By George Gilder. 126 pages. \$14.95. W. W. Norton & Co. Inc., 500 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10110.

Reviewed by Christopher Lehmann-Haupt

THE age of television is dead, declares George Gilder — the author of such previous works as "Wealth and Poverty," "Men and Marriage" and "Micosmos: The Quantum Revolution in Economics and Technology" — in his provocative if somewhat helter-skelter new book, "Life After Television."

The downfall of television, he writes, lay in its original design. "Economic and technical constraints pushed the critical electronics out of the TV set and back into the broadcasting station. Nearly all of the system's intelligence — shaping, sequencing and storing picture signals — would have to be located at the broadcasting center."

But three innovations transformed television's technology:

"The invention of the transistor in 1948, the microchip in 1958 and the fiber-optic cable in the late 1970s made the top-down broadcast structure, with most of the intelligence at the station, obsolete."

The television set could now do much of the work once done by the broadcast center. It could be replaced by a revolutionary new appliance, the personal com-

puter, or, as Gilder calls it, the telecomputer.

The implications of this change are enormous, in Gilder's eyes: "Rather than exciting mass culture, the telecomputer will enhance individualism. Rather than cultivating passivity, the telecomputer will promote creativity.

Instead of a master-slave architecture, the telecomputer will have an interactive architecture in which every receiver can function as a processor and transmitter of video images and other information. The telecomputer will usher in a new culture compatible with the immense powers of today's ascendant technology."

"Perhaps most important, the telecomputer will enrich and strengthen democracy and capitalism all around the world," the author concludes.

And hardly to be overlooked is that the telecomputer will enable the United States to exploit certain technological advantages it already has over Japan.

So what's to keep the United States from marching boldly into the post-television future that Gilder foresees?

Two particular things. First, there exist large legal and financial impediments to the installation of a digitally switched fiber-optic network.

As Gilder tells it, the breakup of AT&T did serve paradoxically to get fiber-optic technology off the ground, thanks to the enterprise of William McGowan, chief executive of MCI until shortly before his recent death.

But now the seven regional operating companies created by the breakup, the so-called Baby Bells, are legally and financially constrained from completing the job of fiber-optic wiring that Gilder sees as logically theirs.

Second, people in the various communications industries simply don't agree with Gilder's vision of the future as he has painted it: for them, the leaders of electronics companies, not broadcasters, not cable operators, not computer manufacturers or microchip producers, not even telephone executives.

"To my surprise," he reports, "the most militant of all in attacking my arguments were the newspaper executives. Yet the implication of my argument was that newspapers could usurp their real rivals — the TV stations — as the prime purveyors of immediate news and information."

The upshot is that no one is now trying to develop the telecomputer of the future. And if the mainstream companies continue to ignore its possibilities, there's a looming danger that the United States will fritter away the considerable lead in computing that it still maintains over the rest of the world, and that Japan will develop the means to produce fiber optics more cheaply than Americans can.

Gilder's solution to the present standstill? "Free the Bell Seven" and permit them to "compete effectively in telecommunications."

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt is on the staff of The New York Times.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

SOUTH had a chance to demonstrate his superb skill in card play on the diagramed deal.

Whether to open one club or one spade with the North hand is a matter of taste. After one spade the bidding developed awkwardly for North, since four diamonds was forcing in the partnership style. His cue-bid of four hearts, a dubious move, propelled South into six diamonds and the heart jack was led. He allowed this to win and took the ace when the suit was continued.

Spade ace. South next led the spade king and forced a cover. The ace was ruffed and seven rounds of trumps produced this ending:

NORTH (1)	EAST
♠ K 8 7 2	♠ A 10 6 5
♥ A 10 8 7 2	♥ K Q 4 2
♦ A 8 7 2	♦ K 10 4
SOUTH	
♠ 8 7 3	
♥ A K Q J 10 9 7 4 3	
♦ A 5	

Neither side was vulnerable. The bidding: North 1♠, 2♣, 3♦, 4♥, 5♠, 6♦, 7♠, 8♠, 9♠, 10♠, 11♠, 12♠, 13♠, 14♠, 15♠, 16♠, 17♠, 18♠, 19♠, 20♠, 21♠, 22♠, 23♠, 24♠, 25♠, 26♠, 27♠, 28♠, 29♠, 30♠, 31♠, 32♠, 33♠, 34♠, 35♠, 36♠, 37♠, 38♠, 39♠, 40♠, 41♠, 42♠, 43♠, 44♠, 45♠, 46♠, 47♠, 48♠, 49♠, 50♠, 51♠, 52♠, 53♠, 54♠, 55♠, 56♠, 57♠, 58♠, 59♠, 60♠, 61♠, 62♠, 63♠, 64♠, 65♠, 66♠, 67♠, 68♠, 69♠, 70♠, 71♠, 72♠, 73♠, 74♠, 75♠, 76♠, 77♠, 78♠, 79♠, 80♠, 81♠, 82♠, 83♠, 84♠, 85♠, 86♠, 87♠, 88♠, 89♠, 90♠, 91♠, 92♠, 93♠, 94♠, 95♠, 96♠, 97♠, 98♠, 99♠, 100♠.

West led the heart jack.

PEANUTS



BEEBLE BAILEY



CALVIN AND HOBBES



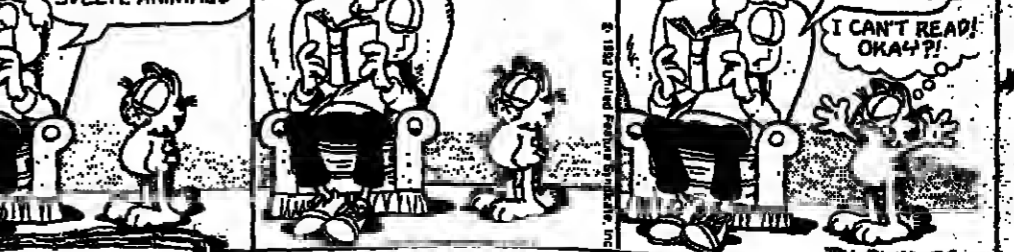
WIZARD OF ID



REX MORGAN



GARFIELD



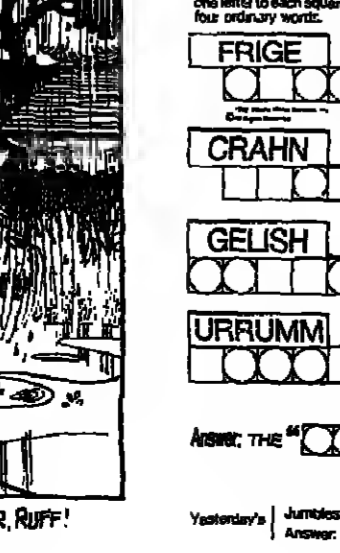
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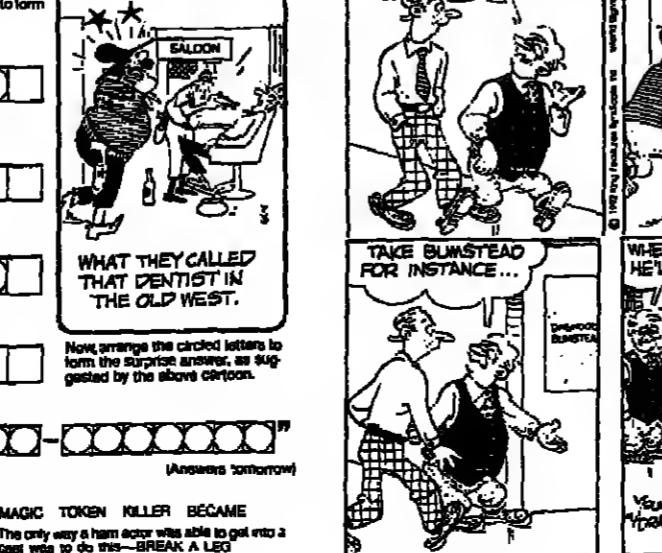
DENNIS THE MENACE



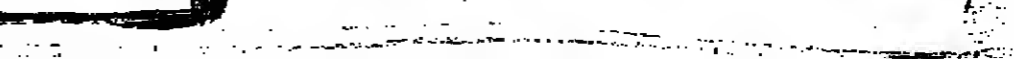
JUMBLE



BLONDIE



MAGIC TONGUE



SPORTS

WIMBLEDON

هكذا من الأهل



Andre Agassi en route to his victory on Thursday over Boris Becker: "It's probably one of the greatest achievements of my career."

A McEnroe-Agassi Showdown

Americans Gain Semifinal, Seles and Graf Reach Final

WIMBLEDON, England — John McEnroe and Andre Agassi, who have practiced together throughout this tournament, swept into a semifinal showdown on Thursday...

This time, the point ended the way so many others had throughout the match — with Seles flashing a backhand passing shot down the line.

Agassi's sixth straight victory over Becker, but the first on grass. On his showdown with McEnroe, Agassi said: "Let me put it this way, there's probably a chance he wishes he hadn't practiced as much as he has with me in these past couple of weeks."

The Case of the Grunting Tennis Star: Order on the Court!

By Ian Thomssen International Herald Tribune WIMBLEDON, England — The following tribunal took place Thursday in the Interview Room at Wimbledon after Monica Seles's 6-2, 6-7 (3-7), 6-4 semifinal victory over Martina Navratilova on Centre Court.

complaint about Miss Seles's grunting on Tuesday. And today, you, too, have complained twice to the umpire about your opponent's guttural utterances, Miss Navratilova. The first time was in the fourth game of the second set, after which, with the score tied 2-2, Miss Seles was summoned to the umpire's chair and asked to stop grunting.

the real world, and the witness being a multi-millionaire superstar, she was not instructed of anything. Eleven times you have played her. NAVRATILOVA: "Right." Never complained before. NAVRATILOVA: "Because it gets — it is louder than it's been."

NAVATILOVA: "I want to see what that guy wants tomorrow. Unbelievable." Another sportswriter called out bravely: I think he's entitled to write whatever he wishes! The writer was then nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. NAVATILOVA: "He certainly is. He doesn't have to hear the ball, though, does he?"

would have beaten me even without the grunt. At this point Navratilova stood up and left. Questions were also taken by the defendant, Miss Seles. Her history of nervous exhortations has been well documented. For the first three years of her career she was known to giggle throughout her press conferences.



A dejected Martina Navratilova as her final hopes dimmed.

Soccer Deal Sparks Riot In Italy

TURIN — The police fired tear gas to disperse hundreds of Torino fans who laid siege to the soccer club's headquarters to protest the transfer of the 23-year-old striker Gianluigi Lentini to AC Milan.

SIDELINES

Krabbe Given Surprise Dope Test

BONN (Reuters) — German sports officials, embarrassed by the legal technicality that helped the sprinter Katrin Krabbe avoid a drug ban, have surprised the double world champion with special stringent dope tests.

Pine Bluff Is Retired After Injury

NEW YORK (NYT) — Pine Bluff, the colt who won the Preakness Stakes and later the \$1 million bonus for best performance in the Triple Crown series of races, has been forced into retirement at the age of 3 after tearing a ligament in his left foreleg during a routine gallop a week ago at Belmont Park.

Tarpley Joins Salonica of Greece

SALONICA, Greece (AP) — The former Dallas Mavericks forward Roy Tarpley has signed a two-year contract with Aris Salonica, the club announced Thursday.

For the Record

A team of major league baseball all-stars will travel to Japan this fall for eight exhibition games against Japanese stars, it was announced Wednesday. The series will begin at the Tokyo Dome on Oct. 29.

Quotable

Eric Lindros, who refused to play for the Quebec Nordiques, upon sitting down at a luncheon sponsored by the Hockey News: "It's always an honor when you are unemployed to have a free meal."

4th Victory Clinches U.S. Team's Olympic Berth

By David Aldridge Washington Post Service PORTLAND, Oregon — Michael Jordan came down the left side of the floor in the second half of the U.S.-Argentina game at the Tournament of the Americas, leapt as high as he could, and tossed down a furious, 17-foot, one-guy-in-the-world-who-can-dunk-like-this jam.

The 41-point margin of victory was the smallest during the tournament for the United States, which is now winning by an average of 56 points per game. And it may have been the most gushing display of affection by an opponent to date.

center Luis Villar's 18 points. Guard Hector Campana scored 17 points. Already playing without John Stockton for the rest of the tournament, the United States again played without Larry Bird, who missed his third straight game with a sore lower back. Clyde Drexler also sat with a sore right knee.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Major League Standings

Table showing Major League Standings for American League and National League, including teams like Toronto, Baltimore, Milwaukee, New York, Boston, Detroit, Cleveland, Minnesota, Oakland, Texas, Chicago, Kansas City, California, Seattle, Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis, Montreal, New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Atlanta, San Diego, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Baltimore, St. Louis, Houston, Los Angeles, Los Angeles.

Wednesday's Line Scores

Table showing Wednesday's Line Scores for American League and National League, including games like Milwaukee at St. Louis, Baltimore at Houston, etc.

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OBSERVER The Super Snoops

By Russell Baker WASHINGTON — The White House professes shock and sorrow at evidence that Ross Perot likes to snoop around in people's lives — likes to have people believe it or not — investigated. It makes you wonder what world the White House has been living in lately. Surely President Bush knows his own vast investigating empire makes Inspector Perot look like a bush-league Sura Magade. Or maybe it was Philip Marlowe, maybe Humphrey Bogart, with the battered old head, bottle of booze in the desk drawer and bills for \$25 a day and expenses. Remember those awful beatings Spade, Marlowe, Bogart took for a lousy \$25 a day and expenses? That's the investigating weight class Perot belongs in when compared with George Bush. It's Bush who has all the guns, yet he professes alarm about Snoopers Perot. Investigating people, Ross? Shame. Shame.

Check It Out: The Venetian Reggae Band

By Roderick Conway Morris VENICE — The winged Lion of St. Mark, ancient symbol of the city, has acquired a raffish rival, whose right-on leonine features, crowned with a red, yellow and green Rastafarian tea-cosy hat, earring, suspicious-looking cigarrette, and "Pax Tibi" ("Peace be with you") badge, have been appearing on posters all over town. The irreverent upstart is the emblem of Pitura Freska (Wet Paint), Venice's very own all-Venetian reggae band which, having shot to fame over the last few months, has just embarked on a nationwide tour, including concerts in Rome, Naples, Florence, Bologna and Turin, that goes on until the end of September. The band was founded in the early '80s by self-styled "Sir Oliver" Skardy, guitarist and school caretaker, and bass-player Francesco Castocci. It now has nine male instrumentalists and two female backup singers. The initial breakthrough for Pitura Freska came last year with the release of their CD/cassette "Na Bruta Banda" (An Ugly Bunch), the title of its opening number, which exorcises the greed and dishonesty of Italian politicians and officials — a theme that becomes ever more topical with almost daily arrests of local government figures on corruption charges. The album has so far sold about 150,000 copies. I caught up with the band on the roof of Venice's Municipal Garage, a six-story building at the end of the causeway that links the city to the mainland, where, against a panoramic backdrop of Venice under a blundering sky, they were shooting scenes for their first video. All Pitura Freska's sharp, inventive and often very funny songs are in veneziano, Venetian dialect, which is well-nigh incomprehensible to other Italian speakers (when they first played in Naples, said trumpeter Valerio Silvestri, "people came up afterwards and tried to speak Spanish to us"). I asked Sir Oliver Skardy — a resident in dreadlocks and white straw hat — who writes the songs and delivers them with punch and panache, whether he wasn't afraid that this might limit their appeal. "The first thing people are interested in is the music," he said. "After all, they listen to songs in English the whole time, without understanding a word of them. Then, gradually, they pick up on the meaning. But anyway, I never thought of writing in anything but Venetian."



Members of Pitura Freska, with "Sir Oliver" Skardy in the middle: sharp, inventive and often very funny songs.

There's a strong "fashion" factor in this kind of music," said Christiano Verardo, "and we try to keep up with, and even get ahead of the field. But there are some trends we won't follow, such as having smaller and smaller bands using electronics to supply the instruments. We think a big lineup on stage is much more exciting in a live concert." One of their most popular numbers is "O' domo veder i'm fio" (Let's go see Pink Floyd) — the "O" of the title and refrain being the warning call made by boatmen when they round blind corners on canals, which has also become a vulgar greeting. The song is the picaresque tale of Skardy's attempt to get the disastrous Pink Floyd concert three years back when 200,000 fans descended on the city, leaving the place vandalized and under mountains of refuse that took the army several days to clear up. Arriving late by train, Skardy actually reaches the concert, retires to a bar to drown his sorrows, and at dawn is nearly beaten up by some out-of-town heavies, after politely suggesting to their obnoxious, whining girlfriends, who are loudly holding forth about how horrible Venice is, that they should have stayed at home. As the keyboard player, Rino Zimmo explained: "For Skardy that night was like coming home and finding a hundred complete strangers in his living room." When not charming events or launching trenchant, richly earned attacks on the establishment, Skardy's lyrics take a more surreal turn. His vision of transforming Marghera — Venice's sprawling industrial district on the mainland, where he lives — into a subtropical paradise has the refrain: "Marghera senza fabbriche saria più sana / Na jungla de panoco, pomodoro e marjanna." (Marghera without factories would be more healthy / A jungle of corn-cobs, tomatoes and marjanna.) And "Bea Fia" ("Lovely Girl") with a strong dash of soul, is positively soft-centered. The proceeds of Pitura Freska's racy, highly entertaining Venice concert on June 29, which even had the local police discreetly jiving and joining in the songs, is to go to children in Ethiopia — a fitting opportunity for the new-venture, Rastast-inspired Lion of Venice to lend a helping paw to the hard-pressed land of the Lion of Judah. Roderick Conway Morris is based in Venice and writes for The New York Times and The Spectator.

Trump Eyes the Profits From Ex-Wife's Book Celebrity follies: After a second court decision upheld a gag rule on Ivana Trump, her former husband, Donald, triumphantly said he should receive the profits of the novel, "For Love Alone," that she has been jet-setting around the world to promote. The book is a thinly veiled tale about a skier from Czechoslovakia who marries an American tycoon. Trump has also threatened to cut off her generous alimony and housing allowance. "I've paid enough," the Donald said. Time in tomorrow. The physicist Stephen Hawking has made it into the "Guinness Book of Records." "A Brief History of Time," at 184 weeks, has now outstayed any other book on the British best-seller list. This time around Anne-Inez Radice, chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Arts, was able to say yes, approving all 1,167 grants, worth \$65 million, recommended by her advisory council. Her veto of grants to two college art galleries for shows that included sexual imagery in May set off widespread protests in the arts world. John Singleton, the 24-year-old director of "Boyz n the Hood," is planning to debut on TV with a series about south-central Los Angeles. "The Champ" will chronicle a black boxer's struggle in the inner city. The annulment of Princess Caroline of Monaco's marriage to Philippe Juppé dragged on for a decade because Juppé refused to meet with Vatican officials, the magazine Paris Match reports. However, the Vatican, which approved the annulment Wednesday, isn't saying which of the two was judged not to have fully accepted the responsibilities of marriage. As the world press stalked their every move, Prince Charles and Princess Diana joined their 7-year-old son Harry on his last day at school on Thursday. Charles took Harry to Wetherby School in the morning, then drove back to Kensington Palace to pick up Diana and return to the school. The three later lunched at the palace.

TODAY'S REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE Appears on Page 5. Includes logos for trans euro and AGS.

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